Kine WEEKLY

BIG EQUIPMENT MERGER

See page 3

The company that
within a few months
has given the public
magnificent "Mrs. Miniver"
and repeats with rich "Random Harvest",
truly wears with glory
the crown which exhibitors
have bestowed upon it—

Leader of the Motion Picture Industry

"RANDOM HARVEST" is now shattering records at the Empire, Leicester Square.

BEAUTY...

1st ...of the four major selling points in a great musical picture

YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER

RITA HAYWORTH

Never more beautiful... She comes to you at the very height of her amazing popularity!

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Kinematograph WEEKLY

No. 1,867. Thursday, January 28, 1943. Vol. 311

"IN FEARLESSNESS, IN FAIRNESS, IN HONOUR ALWAYS TO MIRROR THE LIVING WORLD SO THAT TRUTH MAY SHINE FORTH CLEANLY, CLEARLY, UPON BRITISH SCREENS"

MAKING HISTORY TWICE A WEEK

BRITISH PARAMOUNT NEWS

BIG EQUIPMENT MERGER

G-B. Kalee Ltd.

PLANNING TO MEET POST-WAR HOME AND EXPORT NEEDS

A FIRST step by British specialists in kinema equipment towards the scientific organisation of a post-war plan covering manufacture, distribution and export has been made by the fusion of G.-B. Equipments, Ltd., and Kalee Ltd.

In future these two old-established concerns will operate under the title of G.-B. Kalee, Ltd., J. Arthur Rank, chairman, and E. F. Lyons (Kalee, Ltd.), and H. R. L. de Jonge (G.-B. Equipments) joint managing directors.

By the centralisation of industry and the pooling of experience, quantity production will be assured by specialists which, while benefiting the home exhibitor will be able to hold and increase pre-war export markets and also challenge the pre-eminent position in other countries held formerly by German owned companies.

G.-B. Kalee, Ltd., will be manufacturing in its own factories 75 per cent. of the equipment it will market.

The object of the amalgamation of these two companies is that by combining their interests they will be enabled to give unrivalled service to the exhibitors of this country and, incidentally, will have greater facilities for entering the export market.

Centralisation

One of the principal advantages of this combination will be the centralisation of industry. The powerful effect of this concentration will be seen in the fact that, ranged behind the new company will be many modern factories, each one a specialist in its own field, i.e.,

British Acoustic Films (all types of Sound Equipment).

Kershaw (Projectors, Lighting, Optics and Carbons).

Continued on page 5

C.E.A. PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

After Annual Meeting

The C.E.A. annual meeting this year is to be followed by a social function in the form of a President's Reception, which will continue from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., and will take the form of a thé dansant.

The date of the event is March 9, and the place of meeting and the reception will be the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane.

The reception will be open to members of the Trade and their wives. The price of tickets will be announced later.

It is hoped to arrange for Lord Riverdale, chairman of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, to attend with distinguished members of the R.A.F.

If this can be arranged, Lord Riverdale will present illuminated addresses to the C.E.A. and K.R.S. in recognition of the Trade's great effort for the Fund, which reached over £200,000.

Columbia Executives

At the annual meeting of Columbia stockholders, Harry Cohn was re-elected president and Jack Cohn executive vice-president.

Seven department heads were named vice-presidents, including Joseph McConville, foreign manager.

FILM BOOKERS

To Examine Rentals

A special meeting of the film bookers of the Leeds area is to be held to consider film-rental problems, to take place on Friday, February 12, was decided upon. The hope was expressed that circuit bookers or their representatives, to act as liaison officers, would be present. This decision followed a general survey of film-booking problems. Mr. F. Sykes, had given notice of moving the calling of such a meeting.

Lancs C.E.A. Oppose Flat Rate Bonus

MEMBERS of the S. and E. Lancs C.E.A. are opposed to the payment of a flat-rate war bonus to employees. The equity of the bonus being related to the cost of living was emphasised.

One exhibitor stated that many employees were receiving more than the basic rate, plus bonus, and this extra remuneration was paid willingly when good service was rendered.

Relative Values

What the proprietors felt, however, was that increases ought not to be paid indiscriminately without regard to the quality of the work done or the conscientiousness of the employee. Could it be denied that some members of their staffs were not worth the money now being paid to them?

Some got their money one day and went to another job on the next. If any increases were proposed, they should go to recognised members of staffs whose loyalty and experience entitled them to it.

Branch Consultations

Replying to Coun. W. Woolstencroft, who suggested that any recommendation by headquarters should go first of all to the branches, the Chairman said he could not recall anything which had been approved by General Council having been upset by the branches. Actually, there had been no great increase in the cost of living since the last bonus revision.

T. A. Claughton thought employers should not be compelled to pay maximum bonuses to employees who did not render the best service. It was not a question of making it impossible for the employee to move. The maximum should not be payable until a man had served a certain time.

J. J. McCracken considered this would be difficult to apply. It was not possible to tie an employer down to what he should pay his staff. He suggested that Mr. Claughton should state his proposal precisely in writing. If that were done, it could be considered by the branch executive.

Mr. Claughton: The question is whether a man is really worth the maximum wage or not.

WANTON DAMAGE

Northern C.E.A. to take Action

Plans for vigorous action against kinemagoers who wantonly damage kinema property is being taken by leading kinemas in the Newcastle-on-Tyne area, where the evil, it is stated, is worse than anywhere else.

Warnings are to be exhibited and prosecutions undertaken where the damage can be brought home to individuals.

Alfred Smith, secretary of the local branch of the C.E.A., said that one of the biggest problems of managers in the North-East up to now had been the pilfering of electric light bulbs.

London C.E.A. to Plan for Peace

THE vital need of post-war planning was emphasised by Coun. A. W. Green in his valedictory address to members of the London and Home Counties C.E.A. It was necessary if the Industry were successfully to face the changed and changing circumstances which would operate in the post-war period.

The competition of other forms of entertainment and the high rate of tax would have to be faced, declared Coun. Green, and he hoped that there would not be a price-cutting war in the effort to snatch other business.

Therefore planning was vital for the Trade, and he suggested the setting up of a post-war planning committee to examine the problems that would arise.

Another difficulty which would have to be faced was that of fewer films to distribute, a shortage which might mean the adoption of single-feature programmes.

Continued on page 14a

Kent Exhibitor Passes

The death has occurred at Herne Bay of A. G. Iggulden, J.P., a prominent business man in the town and a pioneer kinema owner. He built the Casino, and was also the proprietor for some years of the Red Lantern, in the main street of the town. He was a member of the Kent County Council, has been chairman of the Herne Bay U.D.C., and a member of the local Chamber of Commerce. He was 73 years of age.

World Wide Coverage on BRITISH MOVIETONE NEWS

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EXPERIENCE

NO one will charge exhibitors as a race with conservatism in Trade politics; Col. Blimp is not a characteristic figure of our business. If, therefore, we examine the subject-matter debated in the record number of branch meetings reported this week, and we find they are all very familiar topics, we may reasonably infer that our main problems are nation-wide, and nothing less than the united strength of the C.E.A. can cope with them.

Which is one reason for receiving with philosophy the news that with hardly an exception the men who carried the burden last year have consented to hold office for the forthcoming period. In normal times there has been an eager welcome to the introduction of new blood, partly because this ensures fresh ideas and encourages a wider participation in practical work by a bigger proportion of the branch membership, and largely because the older workers may feel entitled to sit back and take life more easily.

To-day, however, younger aspirants for office, for obvious reasons, are not available; at the same time the men who have been serving see little prospect of peace and quiet even if they do drop back into the rank and file. The troubles we have to face are not less insistent, nor do they vary much from year to year; it is therefore well that we should use to the best advantage the accumulated experience of our present leaders.

It is a noteworthy fact that many of the exhibitor's anxieties—apart from the perennial struggle to secure the highest product at the lowest price—are dependent upon the Trade's relations with local authorities. National questions, such as quotas, are at present incurable, and if the Board of Trade shows by unwillingness to prosecute defaulters that the law is unworkable, quota surely should cease to worry kinema proprietors.

Long Shots

LONDON'S annual meeting on Tuesday last drew a larger number of members than any other meeting which has ever been held. Due to open at 11.15, it was 11.45 before the last of the long queue had signed his name and entered the room. Meanwhile, the meeting had been opened, the minutes read, and scrutineers appointed to count votes for the executive committee ballot.

THERE was very little beyond routine business to transact, but one note struck by Coun. A. W. Green in proposing the adoption of the report demands mention—that of a post-war planning committee to deal with new problems that will arise.

CECIL BERNSTEIN, who was elected to the vice-chair, has been a very useful committee member, and promises well when he proceeds to the chair in twelve months' time. With Major Gale's wide experience to hand, the new vice-chairman will have useful companionship during the ensuing twelve months.

WHAT I am sure must be a very great disappointment to Major Gale is that for the first time during his long connection with the C.E.A. he has failed to secure sufficient votes to enable him to become a delegate to the General Council. It is also the first time that any chairman of the branch has failed to become a delegate. Sid Hyams, immediate past chairman until this year, also failed to become re-elected.

A LUNCHEON given after his election to the chair by Major Gale was a pleasant little affair, being attended by executive committee members and friends.

IT was the "mixture as before" at the annual general meeting of the Edinburgh Section of the C.E.A. last week. A. S. Albin again suggested that the time had come for fresh blood to be infused into the office of chairman, which he has held for 21 years, and J. Allan Buncle again accused him of gross insubordination in seeking release from the office. The re-election was as cordial as it was unanimous, and Mr. Albin agreed to carry on for "one more year." But for a man of such buoyant, exuberant spirit there is no reason why he should not carry on for another 21 years.

WHEN the report of yesterday's Scottish branch meeting comes through I expect to find some very plain speaking on the claim that Scotland shall have its own Benevolent Fund. It is likely that Scottish delegates to General Council will be instructed to ask for a reversion to the earlier procedure of exempting Scotland from any schemes to aid the C.T.B.F. Anyhow, Jimmy MacBride has announced his intention of introducing the motion and that usually means fireworks.

SCOTLAND at the moment is feeling mighty proud of its Benevolent efforts, and quite justifiably too. The late Thomas Ormiston set £5,000 as the goal of capital to be reached: the capital is now nearly £40,000.

REVENUE for the year is over £9,000, more than it has ever been, and a record has been reached in all directions. This has stimulated the desire to draw away from the Central Fund.

THERE is much to be said both ways. Some think that the best way of handling a trade's charities is by concentrating them, others emphasise the local patriotism aroused by separate control of them.

A JOLLY little cocktail party at Oddenino's café following the screening on Tuesday of United Artists' "Nine Men." Prominent in Glengarry and "tartan trews" was Major Jack Lambert, who plays Sergeant Watson in the film. He had been given special leave to attend the show.

AMONG others present were E. T. Carr, Major Baker, Mickey Balcon, Harry Watt, who directed the film, and Cavalcanti.

RED KANN, whose resignation of the editorship-in-chief of the American *Box-Office* to return to the Quigley Publishing Company was recently chronicled in these columns, writes a cheery note from New York. He becomes a vice-president of the company and will write signed material in the *Motion Picture Herald* and *Motion Picture Daily*.

LINDSAY WILLIAMS, assistant director of George Formby's last film, "Get Cracking," has been recalled to the Merchant Navy, in which he previously served. On his first trip to America in his resumed profession he met Jos. Friedman, who was on his way to the States.

IN these notes on January 7, when writing of Ken Nyman's move to organise the re-issue department of Anglo-American, I speculated on the possibility of other organisations setting similar departments. This week comes news of Arthur Greenspan's move to General Film Distributors to handle re-issues for this company. Arthur has long experience in the Trade and bids fair to make this section of the company an outstanding success.

ALL the most important kinemas in the central area have by now been able to show their patrons "Invincible?" and the British public will have an ideal example of what riotous propaganda really is. Prepared for exhibition in the occupied territories by the Nazi organisation, the newsreel gave a highly polished version of the aims and achievements of the German armies in the Eastern and North African campaigns.

VOLTAIRE, a hundred and fifty years ago, wrote: "These arguments were never disputed except by facts." And this sharp phrase exactly describes the treatment received by the picture when it reached us. "Wait a minute," interpolates an English voice when the French-speaking commentator is describing the sweeping advance of the Germans. "Let us check these statements."

AND that is the film, a triumph of scientific debunking. It would hardly have been brought to this country's screens at a more timely moment, and if there are any people left who doubt the efficacy of the screen as a quick educator of the public—for good or evil purposes—the lesson will be taught them in ten minutes.

AN amusing story comes from Trondheim, where Norwegians sitting in a kinema saw with amazement a propaganda film which showed the German occupying forces giving food to the Norwegian civil population. For a time they were dumb with astonishment—the Germans *giving* food to the Norwegians! Then a voice came from the back of the kinema: "You are running the film backwards!" The audience doubled up with laughter.

NORTHERN branch meetings supply their full quota of humorous interjections and "asides." Everybody feels at home, and while business is transacted quickly and in order there is always time for a jest.

FOR instance, when "Billy" Carr was re-elected with acclamation chairman of the Northern branch, Fred Horsfall (G.-B.) moved that his "salary be doubled." "If it's all the same to the members," said Mr. Carr, "I would rather have the same salary I receive as liaison officer." "I move that it be double the salary of the liaison officer," chipped in Jack Bell. "Agreed! Agreed!" chorused the members. And so it fell out.

AGAIN, when Fred Jackson came up for re-election as auditor, Charles Chipchase observed that his fee of £3 3s seemed inadequate for the amount of work involved, and moved an increase to £5 5s. "Professional interest," shouted somebody jocularly, and "He's in the racket himself" chimed in "Bill" Prodgers. The "rise" was granted in high good humour, for Mr. Chipchase is himself, one of the foremost of Tees-side's chartered accountants.

TEDDY HINGE'S dry humour was heard to advantage at the C.E.A. Northern branch meeting last week. "Following our good habit of trying to keep the party clean," he said, "we appealed to the Government for a 'priority' for dusters and cleaning materials. I won't say that all they gave us was a dirty look; but the advice we got, in effect, was to take out places in the queues at Woolworth's." The attitude of the C.E.A. to the flat-rate war bonus demand may perhaps be gathered from E. J.'s remark at the same meeting. "We have no intention of abrogating established principles on this or other matters."

THE STROLLER.

Close-Ups

by SCREENCOMBER

Uproar

THE success of the Brains Trust has caused alarm and despondency among film stars. As they point out, if brains become popular on pictures, or even a qualification, then where do they stand? That goes for a lot of script writers, directors, and even—forgive us such blasphemy—producers.

Fuel Hint

WHEN and if the Fuel Saving Committee ever materialises or meets why not, as an experiment, try placing copies of the New Year issues of the Trade papers in empty, unheated theatres? Into the pages of these particular issues has been jammed more concentrated hot air than is contained in the crater of Vesuvius. Surely all those red-hot box-office hits, all that publicity hot air, those warm New Year greetings and the heated discussions, would almost solve the fuel problem.

Song

THE publicity gentleman
breathes stentorously.
He's been boasting and swanking
vaingloriously
Of his company's features, shorts
and reissues,
And its glories in words he can
always misuse.
Waxing more than exceeding
lyrical
Of his latest super box-office
miracle,
Threatening he will achieve the
impossible,
Lying like hell and swearing it's
"gossibel."
Claiming a quart inside a pint pot,
Promising hits he just hasn't got,
Playing like Nero on publicity
fiddle,
Putting camels through eye of
the niddle,
He guarantees earthquakes again
and again,
Like booking shares on such a man
as Fontaine.
Let him rave, let him rant, and
before we cry "Halt,"
"Would somebody pass us a
small pinch of salt?"

New Glamour Boy

WE notice that Twentieth Century's No. 1 Glamour Boy has broken out in two places. We don't mean Victor Mature, and we don't mean anything contagious. Just that a copy of the current issue of one of the weekly illustrateds shows Selby Howe in two separate poses grinning benignly on Carole Landis and her airman husband.

Admittedly, from a photogenic viewpoint Selby lacks the baroque flamboyancy of Dillon Damen and his beard "Red Rover," or the rugged grandeur of the great broad acres of Mervyn Macpherson and his monocle "Marmaduke." However, Howe can console himself that he looks equally well in black or white or colour, while Damen is not effective except in Technicolor, while Mervyn, unless he is given a two-page spread, can only be reproduced in sections.

J. Arthur Rank presenting M. Zonoff, of the U.S.S.R. Embassy, with a cheque for £500, half the proceeds of the distribution by G.F.D. of OUR FILM

RKO-RADIO'S NEWS MAGAZINE

Following many months of intensive preparation, RKO-Radio is to launch in the next few weeks the first subjects in a great news magazine series, "This is America." Received with acclamation in America, "This is America" deals with topics of supreme interest to kinemagoers in Great Britain, and each new issue, one of which is to be released every four weeks, has been produced with a definite regard to distribution in this country.

The first issue will be "Women at Arms" and the second "Private Smith of the U.S.A.," which will be screened on February 9 and 10 respectively. "Army Chaplain" will be the third subject.

UNIFICATION OF RCA ACTIVITIES

In order to effect greater efficiency in working, a new alignment has been arranged within the structure of the Radio Corporation of America by which the R.C.A. Manufacturing Co., Inc., is no longer a separate corporation but is merged within the parent company as a division of it.

It will be known as the R.C.A.-Victor Division of the Radio Corporation of America. The result of the change is to achieve unification of all interests.

Standard Studio Spotlights

The British Standards Institution has just issued a specification for Studio Spotlight Lamps and Associated Equipment (B.S. 1075—1943). This specification, which was prepared because of the very strenuous conditions of service to which these lamps are subjected, follows the form of other British standard lamp specifications, with the addition of a section on lamp housing, flexible cables and cable lugs.

Francis L. Harley, managing director of 20th Century-Fox, who is now in the States is not likely to accept the foreign managership of the organisation, states a KINE. New York cable. He states that he desires to remain in Great Britain for the duration.

Colour and Economy

Special "Kine." cable from "Motion Picture Daily"

THE WAR PRODUCTION BOARD is canvassing methods for increasing raw stock manufacture and further economies by producers and distributors under their present allotments to avoid new reductions. Colour films may be affected as raw stock waste in colour production greatly exceeds that in black and white. Meanwhile Hollywood production is maintaining its normal volume with 35 to 40 features in work from week to week for past three months.

CONNECTICUT and Rhode Island order their theatres to cut operating hours by one-seventh weekly to conserve heating and fuel. Massachusetts is considering a similar move.

WEEKLY CHANGES AND SINGLE FEATURES

THE probability of a shortage of product was discussed at last week's meeting of the Leeds C.E.A., when the opinion was expressed that it would be difficult in many situations to arrange bi-weekly changes. The advantages of the single feature programme were also stressed.

Shortage of Films

Mr. Rush added: "We are told that if the war continues there will be a very serious shortage. This will mean longer running times, and eliminate bi-weekly changes in many situations.

"The difficulty in getting sufficient films for Quota in some situations is nearly hopeless, and one can only hope that further conferences will be held for settling the question

"During the past year a much closer co-operation between circuits and independents has taken place. This is a big step, and certainly greatly assists the Association."

Shorter Programmes?

JACK PRENDERGAST emphasised that there was too much waste of footage with double-feature programmes and programmes that were too long. It was, however, not just a question of a single feature, though America appeared to want this now. A No. 1 film would stand up all right, but a B film would not.

It resolved itself, therefore, to the fact that a certain type of film would do as a single feature, and others would not unless they were doubled. The necessity was proper planning and the proper balance of programmes, and they needed to get together so as to be prepared for any eventuality.

HARRY HOPKINS declared that a hide-bound attitude was not possible. He had booked twelve films which appeared to be a good deal, but of these more than half were 6,000 ft., and it was impossible to make up programmes adequately with shorts.

A. S. HYDE agreed that it was wrong to talk of the single feature as such. It was really a question of limited footage.

M. YARDLEY said that Odeon managers preferred single-feature programmes.

Continued from page 3

Big Equipment Merger

Pixtons (Seating and Furnishing Equipment).

Kalee (Draperies and Decorations).

This new enterprise is an endeavour by the Chairman to provide much larger manufacturing facilities and thus to give the British and Overseas exhibitors the best equipment that British scientists can design and British workmen produce at a competitive market price. This will be made possible due to the great resources of the new company.

World Markets

It is the long-term view of the Chairman that one of the principal aims of the new company will be to capture the export trade for this class of equipment so long held by German-owned companies. Extensive modern factory space will be available for the planning of this campaign for the world market, and it is hoped this may provide additional employment for skilled labour after the war.

The directors of the new company are:— J. Arthur Rank, D.L., J.P. (Chairman); Mark Ostrer, Ian Cremieu-Javal, Commander W. B. Pirie, D.S.O., D.L., F. H. Christlieb, E. F. Lyons, H. R. L. de Jonge, Joint Managing Directors.

Countrywide Service

The headquarters of G.-B. Kalee, Ltd., are at National House, 60-66, Wardour Street, W.1. the addresses and telephone numbers of their Provincial depots are as follows:—

Belfast: 49, Donegall Street. Tel.: 27065.

Birmingham: 16, John Bright Street. Tel.: Midland 3619.

Cardiff: 9, Park Lane. Tel.: 7676.

Dublin: 34, Lower Abbey Street. Tel.: 45059.

Glasgow: 211, Hope Street. Tel.: Douglas 1305.

Leeds: 17, Wellington Street, Tel.: 26259.

Manchester: Parsonage Chambers, 3, The Parsonage. Tel.: Blackfriars 8317.

Newcastle: 2, Cross Street. Tel.: 23036.

Scene from the Monogram production THE PHANTOM KILLER, featuring Dick Purcell and Joan Woodbury with John Hamilton and Warren Hymer (Pathe)

London Trade Show Diary

OFFERINGS TO BE SCREENED BETWEEN THURS., JAN. 28 AND WED., FEB. 3

Thursday

Phantom Killer (*Pathe*)

G.B. Theatre. **2.30 p.m.**

Cast: Dick Purcell and Joan Woodbury, with John Hamilton and Warren Hymer. **Director:** William Beaudine.

Revealing the carefully laid plans of a maniac who would commit the "perfect crime," "Phantom Killer" follows in thrilling fashion the career of a criminal who feigns deaf and dumbness and, as a benefactor and civic-minded citizen of high repute, frustrates all police efforts to detect his methods and bring him to justice. How the killer carries out his plan with the aid of his twin, who is actually deaf and dumb, is one of the most novel murder plots.

Friday

Jungle Siren (*Pathe*)

G.B. Theatre. **2.30 p.m.**

Cast: Ann Corio and Buster Crabbe, with Evelyn Wahl and Paul Bryar. **Director:** Sam Newfield.

The setting of the story of "Jungle Siren" is laid in Africa, where Buster Crabbe, in the character of an American captain of engineers serving with the Free French forces, gets romantically entangled with Kuhlaya, played by Ann Corio, a beautiful, half-wild white girl who has been reared among the natives and who has come to be regarded as a sort of queen by the tribesmen. Efforts by a Nazi agent, abetted by an evil-minded native chieftain, to defeat the captain's mission, which is the establishment of a new airfield, and to rouse the friendly but superstitious natives against the Free French, form the basis of the plot around which the action centres.

How Kuhlaya, the jungle siren, outwits and upsets the schemes of the Axis plotters, and incidentally saves his life and falls in love with the handsome American captain, makes a thrilling and colourful yarn.

Calaboose (*United Artists*)

Crown Theatre. **2.30 p.m.**

Cast: Jimmy Rogers, Noah Beery, Jun., Mary Brian, Bill Henry.

"Calaboose" tells the crazy adventures of Jimmy and Pidge, two happy-go-lucky cowboys on the trail. Their attempts to find work bring them a job to load horses for the Army, and a sight of pretty Doris Lane bring them a host of trouble.

Doris's social instincts take the form of trying to straighten out the evil tendencies of the criminals who are lodged in the Sheriff's (her uncle's) jail. Pidge, smitten with Doris, determines to be reformed, and starts developing the necessary criminal tendencies.

Through a tangle of side-splitting situations, during which the more sober Jim tries to dig his love-lorn comrade out of his cell the picture develops to its uproarious climax.

Tuesday

Happy Go Lucky (*Paramount*)

Carlton Theatre. **10.30 a.m.**

Cast: Mary Martin, Dick Powell, Eddie Bracken, Betty Hutton, Rudy Vallee, Mabel Paige. **Director:** Curtis Bernhardt.

Paramount's "Happy Go Lucky" is a gala musical comedy in breathtaking Technicolor. Gaiety is the underlying theme of the story, which tells of two New York show girls, who visit a tropical resort to seek their fortunes. One, played by Mary Martin, is a cigarette girl at a Broadway night club. She is out to hook a wealthy husband. The other, played by Betty Hutton, is a singer in a floor show. Our cigarette girl masquerades as the daughter of a millionaire, and she has put all her savings into her wardrobe. The impersonation is all right for a time, until an attractive beachcomber, played by Dick Powell, discovers she is a fraud. However, he helps her to find her wealthy hubby, a character portrayed by Rudy Vallee. Complications quickly set in, particularly when our heroine loses her heart to the penniless beachcomber, and her friend meets an old flame in the person of Eddie Bracken. All comes right in the end, of course, but not before all the characters have gone through many riotous experiences. The music for "Happy Go Lucky" is by Frank Loesser and Jimmy McHugh, and the picture has been produced on a lavish scale and staged against some of the most luxurious backgrounds ever seen.

Immortal Sergeant (*20th-Fox*)

Century Theatre. **10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.**

Cast: Henry Fonda, Maureen O'Hara, Thomas Mitchell, Allyn Joslyn, Reginald Gardiner, Melville Cooper, Morton Lowry. **Director:** John Stahl.

Gripping, human, romantic and exciting picturisation of John Brophy's terrific international best-seller—the book which told the story of Libya more powerfully than any other war romance.

A succession of inspiring scenes tells the adventurous story of a handful of men—a lost British patrol—fighting against gigantic odds and heavier forces in the Libyan desert. They never know where they are going, but they are determined to carry on at all costs, and it is the spirit of the valiant sergeant who lost his life leading them that hovers over them and inspires them. It is the story of a man of meek spirit who finds himself through the danger of battle, becoming a new man and a hero.

John Stahl's masterly direction is responsible for the greatness and powerful appeal of this human drama of undaunted courage and desperate heroism, with Henry Fonda giving of his finest and best.

You Were Never Lovelier (*Columbia*)

Studio One. **10.45 a.m.**

Cast: Fred Astaire, Rita Hayworth, Adolphe Menjou, Leslie Brooks, Adele Mara, Isabel Elsom, Gus Schilling, Barbara Brown, Douglas Leavitt, Catherine Craig, Kathleen Howard, Mary Field, Larry Parks, Stanley Brown, and Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra. **Director:** William A. Seiter.

Rita Hayworth's loveliness and Fred Astaire's exciting rhythmic dancing set to Jerome Kern's enchanting music are the ingredients from which Columbia has produced this delightfully entertaining, superb musical film.

Rita Hayworth appears as the eldest daughter of an eccentric South American impresario (Adolphe Menjou) who insists that her younger sisters cannot marry before she does. This causes complications, for both her younger sisters are secretly engaged whilst she has no interest in boys. In his determination to arouse her romantic instincts Menjou "creates" a dream prince, an unknown suitor with whom she falls in love. Along pops Fred Astaire, an out-of-work Broadway dancer broke to the wide. Applying for a job, he is mistaken for Rita's dream prince, and is quite content with things as they are until he finds he is really falling in love with her. The deception is discovered by Rita, but her love is too deep to shake off, and all ends well, as she dances off in Fred's arms.

The song-hit music by Jerome Kern and lyrics by Johnny Mercer include "I'm Old Fashioned," "Dearly Beloved," "You Were Never Lovelier," "Wedding in the Spring," "The Shorty Georg," and, in addition, Xavier Cugat, world-famed rhumba king, and his band, who play music throughout, have for their own special number "Chiu Chiu."

Wednesday

The Lido Mystery (*Columbia*)

Studio One. **10.45 a.m.**

Cast: William Gargan, Margaret Lindsay, Charley Grapewin, Gale Sondergaard, Gilbert Roland, Sig Ruman, James Burke, Ernest Dorian, Felix Basch, Minor Watson, John Hamilton, James Seay and Louis Donath. **Director:** James Hogan.

William Gargan is featured again in this film in the rôle of Ellery Queen, super screen sleuth, with his lovely assistant Nikki, played by Margaret Lindsay. He delves into the mystery of smuggled industrial diamonds, and after many thrilling incidents of murder and sabotage Ellery succeeds in bringing the Nazi agents responsible for the crimes to bay. Nikki manages, as usual, to make things difficult for her boss, and manages to be in at the grand finale by getting herself captured by the enemy.

The famous sleuth becomes involved when his friend Sergeant Velie (James Burke) is suspended from the police force for losing a killer-suspect. In his efforts to locate the prisoner he stumbles across the spy ring. Charley Grapewin again portrays Inspector Queen in this thrill-packed mystery story.

Leslie Brooks, Adele Mara, Rita Hayworth, Catherine Craig, Adolphe Menjou and players in a scene from the Columbia production, YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER

Union Bonus Demand

MANCHESTER ON CONSULTATION WITH BRANCHES

AT last week's meeting, the Manchester and Salford Branch Committee decided to act on the suggestion of H. NEWBOULD to circularise members asking them to notify the secretary immediately if, when new licences are issued, additional clauses or conditions of which they have not had notice are introduced.

War Bonus Claim

Concerning the N.A.T.K.E. application for a flat rate war bonus instead of the present percentage increase, a city exhibitor suggested that they should point out in any negotiations with Mr. O'Brien that whilst exhibitors had every sympathy with the adjustment of wages to the cost of living they felt they were being asked to pay increases (the proposed flat rate) to personnel who were not qualified kinema employees.

Some, in fact, were the dregs of the unemployable market, their services being all that were available owing to the call-up of regular employees. It was not an exaggeration to say that 75 per cent. of the staff now being paid bonuses were not efficient.

City theatres paid high rates of wages, yet they experienced innumerable "let downs." It was quite common for some employees to receive their wages on the Friday and not to turn in to work on the Saturday. Certain of them were just dodgers migrating from place to place.

Birds of Passage

In regard to these "birds of passage," it was suggested that prospective employers did not always make proper inquiries as to the antecedents of the applicants, where they had worked and what they were doing. That shortcoming might be partly met if, when the last stamps on insurance cards were cancelled, this cancellation was made with the theatre rubber stamp. The next employer would then see when the cards were picked up and from what theatre.

Legality of cancelling the stamps in this way was questioned. The exhibitor who sponsored the suggestion said he had no doubts whatever.

Only the previous Friday he paid a man his wages at 11 a.m. He was due back from lunch at 1 p.m., but did not return until 3.30 p.m., when he was wearing the uniform trousers of another theatre which had given him a job in the meantime. A telephone call elicited the information that the man said he had just been discharged from the Army.

Bonus of Part-timers

Another member was curious to know what arguments could be put forward by the N.A.T.K.E. for the payment of the war bonus to part-time employees who worked at other jobs during the day

Resolution was adopted for a letter to go to the General Secretary stating there should be no negotiations with the N.A.T.K.E. until the opinions of the branches had been ascertained.

Fredric March and Veronica Lake in a scene from the Rene Clair production I MARRIED A WITCH (U.A.)

VERSATILE MANAGER RESIGNS

"Jimmie" Johnson

James (Jimmie) Johnson, a man of many parts, who has been manager of Black's Regal, South Shields, for six years, has been presented by the staff with a pipe on his recent resignation.

It is more than 50 years ago that Mr. Johnson went to South Shields from his native Gateshead. He served throughout the South African War, and on his return was made an honorary Freeman of the borough. He became manager of the Cleveland Dairy Co. and a caterer, but joined up with the R.F.A. in 1914. He was disabled in 1917 and spent 15 months in hospital. Returning to South Shields, he was appointed executive officer for Fuel Control.

In 1920 Mr. Johnson entered the kinema business with the Thompson-Collins enterprise and managed the Queen's, Mile End Road. Later, he transferred to Black Bros. as manager of the Regal.

He is succeeded by **John Randall,** who has been with Blacks three years as manager of the Regal, Byker, Newcastle.

"Bambi" Scoring

Reports reaching RKO-Radio indicate that Walt Disney's latest full-length feature, "Bambi," is scoring a great box-office on its general release in all parts of the country.

Receipts are on a high level and the film is expected to become one of the foremost money-spinners ever screened in Britain.

Manchester Branch Deficit

REDISTRIBUTION OF AREAS

After A. SNAPE reported on the branch finances, which showed a deficit, W. A. HOCKMAN remarked that one of the reasons why the branch was not self-supporting was the incompleteness of its territory. There were several theatres actually in the Manchester branch territory that had been attached to another branch, to which they obviously and geographically did not belong. They were located in Cheshire and on the south side of Manchester.

If the Manchester branch had the benefit of their subscriptions it would then have a reasonable chance of paying its way.

In reply to questions, the SECRETARY said the membership was 147, whilst that of the S. and E. Lancs branch was 232.

W. A. HOCKMAN: Manchester and Salford branch has had to bear the brunt of difficult negotiations which affect a wide area. It was not generally appreciated how much work was undertaken on behalf of exhibitors. Finance ought not to be one of our anxieties.

H. NEWBOULD: A sufficient income can only be secured by a re-distribution of territory.

Chairman A. CAPLAN undertook to discuss the re-zoning of the branch area with the General Secretary.

RISE IN FILM HIRE COSTS

Manchester Branch will Raise Issue at February G.C. Meeting

OBJECTIONS were voiced at the Manchester and Salford branch committee meeting, on January 20, to the methods which renters were said to be adopting in order to raise the level of film rentals. These were stated to include: (a) grading of films, (b) alleged compiling of list of exhibitors with whom renters refuse to trade except on renter-dictated terms, (c) their refusal to book Sunday films on flat rates. A. Caplan presided.

It was pointed out that in the present competitive conditions of trading, it was the exhibitors' fault if he was induced to pay too high prices. If renters, as sellers, were going to grade films, the exhibitors, as buyers, could do the same.

Alleged Discrimination

As to Sunday bookings, the delegates had been plainly told in London that until the Manchester exhibitors showed some unity in their objection to percentage terms, little could be done at the London end. Manchester was the only area where the renters were calling for percentages for Sunday films. Local exhibitors simply claimed equality of treatment with exhibitors in other parts of the country.

The chairman said it was objectionable that there should be discrimination against Manchester.

Meeting With Renters Suggested

When the suggestion was made that a useful purpose might be served by trying to arrange a meeting of the Manchester renting managers to discuss the situation, Secretary T. E. ROBINSON observed: "If you make inquiries you will probably be told there is no renters' organisation in Manchester."

Another proposal was that a representation should be made to K.R.S.

One member disclosed that he could book a film on flat-rate terms for three days, but if he wanted it for four days, including Sunday, the renter demanded 25 per cent. for the Sunday showing.

It was left to the secretary to draft a suitable resolution, which will be approved by a sub-committee before being passed on to the General Secretary for submission to the February meeting of G.C.

Damage to Films

From L. HARRIS, of United Artists, Manchester branch, was received a letter urging exhibitors to impress on their operators the need for the exercise of the utmost care in the handling of films.

Whilst this request received sympathetic attention, the meeting felt it to be equally important that renters should examine films before sending them out and see to it they were in proper condition.

"We should not sidetrack by pushing all the blame on the renters," commented C. W. FENNELL. "There ought to be a 'beat up' all round. Although renters, like ourselves, have staff troubles, they are not giving sufficient attention to the condition of films. We, on our part, should see there is a tightening-up in our projection rooms."

E. HAMPSON: We had Mickey Mouse in the middle of one film.

H. NEWBOULD: In reel four of the Marlborough film we found a Fuel Flash. We found films in the wrong boxes, and titles and beginnings on the wrong releases. Such was the mess that we had to get another copy.

It was decided to circularise members asking them to take more care of films.

Salford S.O. Turnover Figures

Thanks were accorded to A. Snape, H. Newbould and T. E. Robinson for their successful representations to the Salford city treasurer, who had asked for the submission of Sunday trading accounts. Salford has now agreed to accept a statement of takings covering a full twelve months.

Exhibitors are expected to render their statements by January 31, or earlier if possible.

Film Gossip from the Wrong Angle

From one of the Manchester evening newspapers was received a letter replying to the branch suggestion that space should be given to comment and news on films being, or due to be, shown in the city, instead of or in addition to a syndicated Hollywood film feature.

W. A. HOCKMAN said that the majority of news published in this feature related to who was involved in the latest scandal. It was regrettable that the only local kinema matter which appeared was of an adverse character. It ought to be pointed out to the newspaper that exhibitors were legally required to show a percentage of British films, on which a Hollywood correspondent was hardly in a position to comment.

It was decided to point out to the newspaper that, whilst it was prepared to comment on American films, it was regrettable the same attention was not given to British films.

Quota Films

Comment was made on the quota situation. Secretary T. E. ROBINSON reported there was a great deal of grumbling amongst exhibitors because the renters were able to "get away" with old British films for their quota, yet these films did not rank for exhibitors' quota.

"I disagree entirely with having to show old films," exclaimed H. NEWBOULD. "No M.P. would pay a 'new' price for a second-hand overcoat or suit."

The CHAIRMAN: Before long you will find you will have to show a lot of old British films. In the last four or five years many good British films have been produced. They can be, and are, very useful.

"Exhibitors would like to show their full quota, but the films are simply not available: that is why the General Council should take up the matter with the Board of Trade," said T. E. ROBINSON.

C. W. FENNELL considered that the public had seen so many U.S.A. films that they were American film-minded. Production of British films ought to be encouraged to get the public British film-minded.

"I feel we shall have to make a stand for this," he added. "It is in the interests of the public that there should be a good supply of British films and that means be found to show them," he added.

Badly-Behaved Children

T. E. ROBINSON reported on an aspect of the admission of children to kinemas. He said the behaviour of children at one theatre had resulted in their exclusion. They packed the first few rows of seats, indulged in cat-calls and screaming and wilfully damaged theatre property. They had actually pulled water pipes away from walls. There had been floods of water at this theatre on five occasions.

EDINBURGH'S 1943 OFFICE-BEARERS

A. S. Albin to Carry On

CAPT. W. M. CAMERON AS NEW "VICE"

A. S. ALBIN, who has been chairman of the Edinburgh section of the C.E.A. for 21 years, was persuaded at the annual general meeting of the section last week to accept office for another year.

Captain W. M. Cameron (Dominion) was nominated as vice-chairman of the Scottish branch.

The CHAIRMAN recalled that he had held office for 21 years, and in recognition of that was to be the guest of honour at the annual meeting of the Scottish branch. He thanked the members most sincerely for their great kindness and consideration in allowing him to hold the office for such a stretch of years.

He knew that in the Edinburgh Section there was a very high standard of intelligence — their decisions were frequently adopted by other branches—and they had a great attendance record; and the consistent support of five or six ex-chairmen of the Scottish branch had made his long tenure of office the pleasantest years of his connection with the C.E.A. But he thought it was time the chair was occupied by one of their younger members.

The Branch Insists

J. ALLAN BUNCLE (Dunfermline) said they would have to take their chairman firmly in hand, for these annual attempts to deprive the section of his valuable services amounted to gross insubordination. His score of 21 not out was an enviable record, and one which made them very proud of him. They tendered to Mr. Albin their warmest thanks for his constant devotion to the interests of the section and its members, and he had great pleasure in proposing him as chairman for the coming year.

Several members rose to second the motion, but R. M'LAUGHLIN suggested that their seconding should take the form of a unanimous vote, and this was agreed to.

LOUIS DICKSON said he thought he could claim to be the oldest member of the section. The late Bailie Buchanan was chairman of the old C.E.A. formed in 1912, and when the C.E.A. was put on its present basis and made a section of the Scottish Branch in 1917 he was still chairman for a time, and then he was followed by Mr. Albin.

The Edinburgh Section had always kept its end up, even after it became a section of the Scottish Branch, and that was largely due to the fact that Mr. Albin was their chairman.

Mr. ALBIN said he would accept office for one more year.

J. S. DUNBAR pointed out that Mr. Albin had deputised for Bailie Buchanan for two or three years before his election. So he had been practically their chairman for 24 years.

R. M'Laughlin for General Council

William Marchbank, S.S.C., acting secretary, was reappointed. Mr. M'Laughlin was elected a delegate to the General Council in room of ex-Provost Timmins, Lochgelly. The other delegates are Louis Dickson and W. S. Albin.

Scottish Executive

For the Scottish Executive there were vacancies caused by the resignation of Mr. Buncle and Mr. M'Laughlin's appointment to the General Council, which entitled him to attend Executive meetings without election thereto. Mr. Dunbar, the other representative, wanted also to resign, but he was nominated for re-election along with Mrs. MacGhee, L. F. Priest (Bathgate), Major Walker (Broxburn), and Joe M'Guire. On a vote Messrs. Dunbar, M'Guire and Priest were nominated for election by the branch.

Capt. W. M. Cameron, of the Dominion, was unanimously nominated for the vice-presidency of the Scottish Branch, and he agreed to allow his name to go forward.

Free Admissions

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN reported that he had been in communication with Scottish Command about the organised admission of wounded soldiers to kinemas, and they had taken it up with the medical services. He had sent them a list of houses in the centre of the city that were likely to be affected, and the hours when there would be free admissions, and he was now awaiting a reply.

JOSEPH PENN thought it should be left to the discretion of individual managers.

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN explained that this was an attempt to regularise the positions to find out the likely numbers, and from which hospitals, so that they could come as a party.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that as Mr Penn was not at the last meeting they might add his house to those prepared to admit the men in blue, and Mr. PENN at once agreed.

Mr. DICKSON said he still maintained that there was a recommendation from headquarters early in the war that men in blue were to be admitted to a limited extent at the discretion of individual managements.

Grading of Halls

Mr. Dickson's report on meetings of the General Council and some of its committees covered matters, most of which have already been reported in the KINE. There had been, he said, a long discussion on the question of regrading of halls, and Mr. King had put forward a scheme drawn up by the Scottish branch, but it was agreed to defer consideration till the president and the General Secretary came up to the meeting of the Scottish branch, when it would be discussed.

There had been further correspondence with the Board of Trade with regard to quotas, and they had been asked to furnish particulars as to the number of halls prosecuted, and that sort of thing. But it appeared that during all the years the Act had been in force there had been a very small number of prosecutions, with the fines ranging from £100 to a very small amount. Those who had been fined had made no attempt to fulfil their quota.

The pamphlet by Bert Green entitled "I Was a Spoolboy" was considered very useful, and Mr. Green had been thanked for his trouble in making it up. A copy was being sent to each member, and extra copies could be supplied at 3d., the revenue to go to the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN suggested that the fact that quotas of carbons had not been taken up, on which Mr. DICKSON also reported, might be due to the difficulty some people had in getting delivery, and Mr. BUNCLE thought perhaps some patriotic members might be putting out their carton lids as salvage.

Jack Lambert and Bill Blowett in a scene from Michael Balcon's NINE MEN, which opens at the New Gallery and the Marble Arch Pavilion on January 31

OVERLAPPING OFFICIALDOM

Mr. BUNCLE, reporting on the last meeting of the Scottish Executive, said there had been trouble in a Glasgow house where some fire appliances, approved by the Burgh Engineer, had been removed to another part of the house on the instructions of a N.F.S. official, and the Burgh Engineer then complained that they had been removed without consulting him.

The Executive decided that in future any member who was asked to move safety appliances should first consult their licensing authority before agreeing to do anything.

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN said it should be the job of the local Fire Brigade.

Mr. DICKSON said the trouble had arisen in Glasgow through a N.F.S. man going round inspecting independent of the local authority.

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN said for ten years inspection of their fire appliances had been the work of the local Fire Brigade.

Edinburgh and Benevolence

A letter was read from WILLIAM KEMPSALL, who on completion of his chairmanship of the Scottish C.T.B.F., wished to thank Edinburgh members for their handsome donation from Cinema Sunday, which he said had substantially helped them to raise their revenue for the year to the record figure of over £9,000. Letters of thanks were also read from other recipients of grants from that effort.

On the motion of Mr. M'LAUGHLIN, it was agreed to reaffirm the decision that all applications for theatres for charities should be made through their Applications Committee. Mr. M'Laughlin pointed out that it was quite competent for a manager to write and say he had been asked for his theatre along with a recommendation that it be granted.

Scots Annual Meeting

Yesterday, Wednesday, the annual meeting of the Scottish Branch, C.E.A., was held in the Grosvenor. The President and Secretary of the C.E.A., having indicated their intention of being present, a good turn-out was expected. The usual luncheon followed the meeting, and thereafter the annual meeting of the Scottish Cinema Trade Benevolent Fund took place.

"Nine Men" for Early Showing

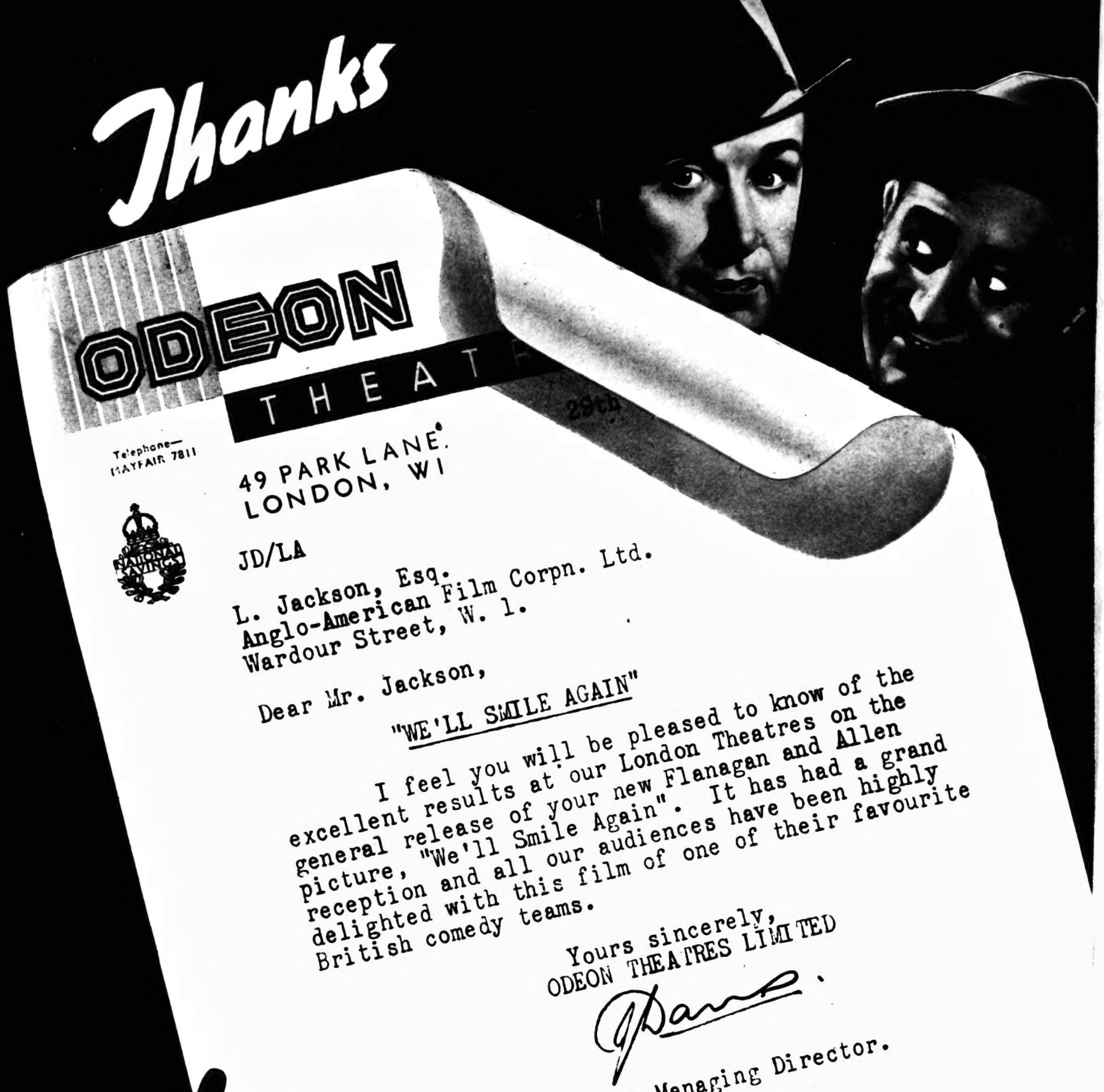
FIVE FILMS FROM U.A.

FIVE United Artists pictures will shortly be seen in the West End. The first two, Michael Balcon's powerful drama of war in Libya, "Nine Men," and Loew-Lewin's "The Moon and Sixpence," W. Somerset Maugham's story, open immediately, the former at the New Gallery and Marble Arch Pavilion on January 31, and the latter at the Odeon, Leicester Square, on Feb. 5.

Within a few weeks the brilliant Cinema Guild comedy, "I Married a Witch," will be screened in the West End. This original and ingenious production is reported to be sweeping the United States with record-breaking figures. Co-starring Veronica Lake and Frederic March in the greatest performances of their careers, directed by the supreme French director Rene Clair, "I Married a Witch" is marked as one of the pictures which will be amongst the most notable of 1943.

In quick succession will follow "Young and Willing," also a Cinema Guild production, a comedy romance based on a great New York stage success, starring William Holden, Eddie Bracken, Susan Hayward and Robert Benchley. "Young and Willing" is a first-rate rollicking comedy, escapist, through and through, hitting the top lines in the United States, and assured of a great reception over here.

Immediately after Harry Sherman's "Silver Queen," co-starring George Brent and Priscilla Lane, will be seen. "Silver Queen" is a tremendous action drama, full of thrills and excitement, moving at a great pace, a picture which will delight the box-office.



ODEON THEATRES

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LONDON, W1

29th

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Anglo-American Film Corpn. Ltd.
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Dear Mr. Jackson,

"WE'LL SMILE AGAIN"

I feel you will be pleased to know of the excellent results at our London Theatres on the general release of your new Flanagan and Allen picture, "We'll Smile Again". It has had a grand reception and all our audiences have been highly delighted with this film of one of their favourite British comedy teams.

Yours sincerely,
ODEON THEATRES LIMITED

Joint Managing Director.

Mr. Exhibitor—

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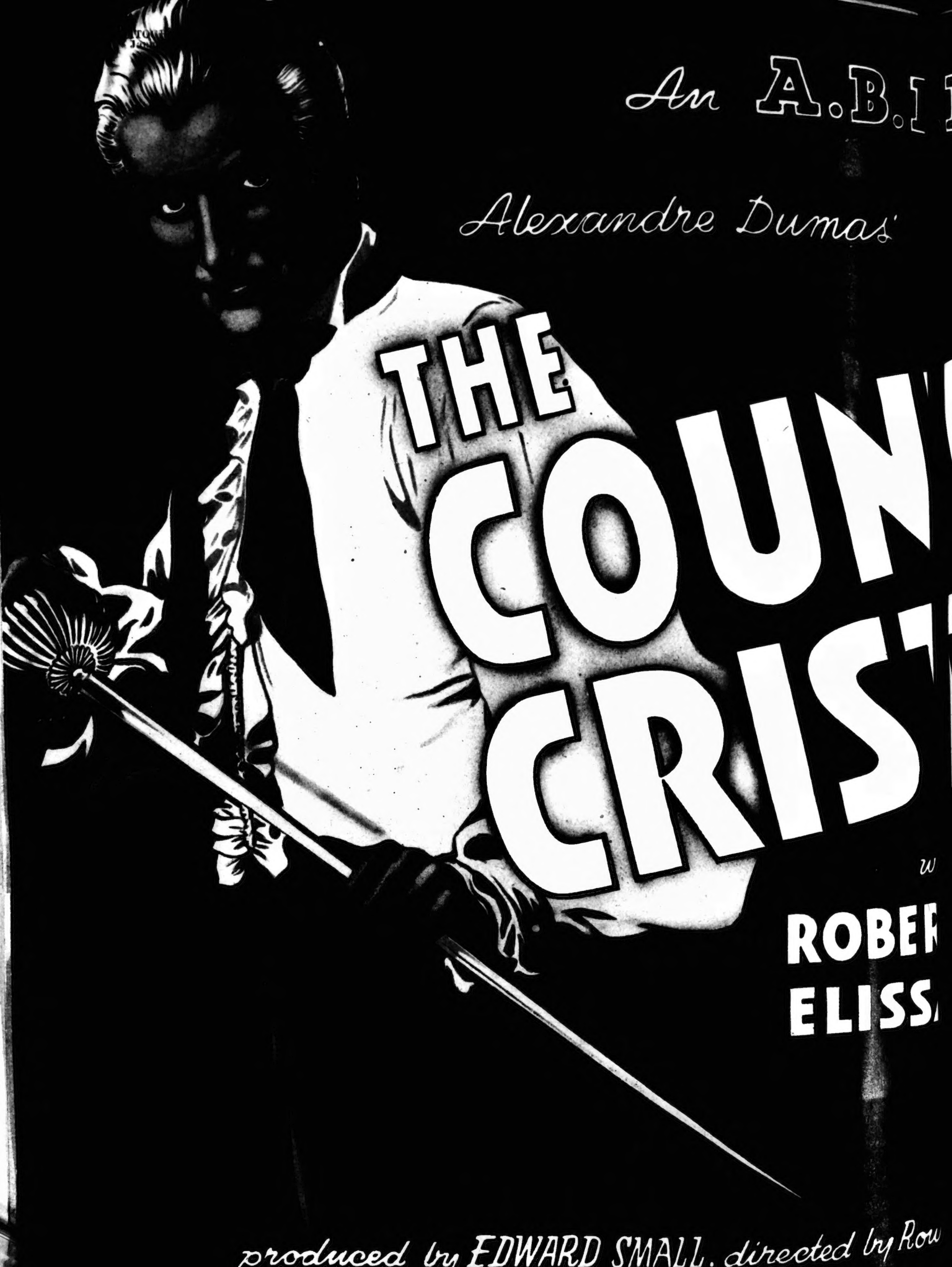
An A.B.I
Alexandre Dumas'
THE
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w
ROBER
ELISS
produced by EDWARD SMALL, directed by Rou

I D. Release

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TO

wi

ERT DONAT
S. LANDI

"GREAT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY"
—KINE WEEKLY

Row nd V. Lee. A RELIANCE PICTURE.

An A.B.F.D. Release

AUL OBESON

Samson of Song!

ROUD VALLE

WITH
EDWARD CHAPMAN • EDWARD
SIMON LACK • RACHEL THOMAS

prod

MIC

An A.B.F.D. Release

GAY ROMANTIC COMEDY!

An Edward Small production

BARBARA STANWYCK

ARMS AND THE GIRL

WITH

ROBERT YOUNG

HARDIE ALBRIGHT • RUTH DONNELLY
CLIFF EDWARDS • GORDON JONES •
PAUL STANTON

A Reliance Picture

Directed by Sidney Lanfield

An A.B.F.D. Release

A.B.F.D.

A ROLLICKING MUSICAL CRUISE!

TRANSATLANTIC MERRY-GO-ROUND

WITH

GENE RAYMOND
NANCY CARROLL
SYDNEY HOWARD
JACK BENNY

MITZI GREEN
SID SILVERS
FRANK PARKER
BOSWELL SISTERS

A Reliance Picture

produced by Edward Small

Continued from page 3

London C.E.A. to Plan for Peace

Mr. Green briefly referred to the man- and woman-power situation with which they were all vitally concerned. He referred to the setting up of the Joint Contract Board and spoke of the branch's conviction that wages questions were a matter to be dealt with by that board and should not be dealt with nationally.

Following a mention of other matters in the report, Coun. Green thanked Major Gale for his assistance during his year of office, and paid a tribute to the work done by the Executive Committee.

As to Mr. Taylor, every other chairman had spoken of him as a tower of strength. He would rather speak of him as a "damn good secretary" who had done great service in handling the many problems before the branch.

A. W. Moss seconded the adoption of the Report, which was unanimously carried.

The balance sheet was adopted on the proposal of Major Gale and R. V. Crow.

Gale as Chairman

A. J. Gale was voted to the chair and thanked members for his second election to the chair, the previous one being in 1928. Mentioning his continuous association with exhibitors' affairs since 1907 when, with others, they discussed the film booking crisis which was still with them. He paid a tribute to managers who had had to carry on through difficult circumstances during the period of the blitz, and promised them the full support of the branch's Executive Committee. He appealed to managers to observe strictly the conditions of the licence, even if they are irksome.

A. W. Moss proposed a vote of thanks to Coun. A. W. Green for the work performed by him as chairman, saying that those who had passed through the chair realised that it was a full-time job which had to be done in one's spare time.

Morris Levy seconded, and Coun. Green thanked the proposers and the meeting for their vote.

T. France proposed the election of Cecil Bernstein, and Abe Freedman seconded. There being no other nomination, Mr. Bernstein was welcomed to the vice-chair by Major Gale.

Executive Committee

The election of the Executive Committee resulted in the following, in addition to Abe Freedman, Sid Hyams, Coun. A. W. Green and Cecil Bernstein (automatically elected) being successful: Reginald V. Crow, Squadron Leader A. W. Davies, Major A. Davis, J. H. Davis, R. H. Dewes, Major T. H. Fligelstone, Thomas France, Major A. J. Gale, O.B.E., J.P., Coun. T. L. Harrold, J. Hart, S. Hart, Coun. E. A. Huddleston, T. J. James, Commander A. W. Jarratt, R. Lea, Morris M. Levy, E. H. Lundy, C. A. Mathes, L. Morris, W. Southan Morris, A. S. Moss, S. H. Parsons, B. Tyne.

General Council Delegates

The election of General Council delegates resulted as follows: Cecil Bernstein, J. H. Davis, R. H. Dewes, T. France, A. Freedman, Coun. A. W. Green, Commander Jarratt, R. Lea, E. H. Lundy, C. A. Mathes, A. S. Moss and S. H. Parsons.

A collection taken up for the C.T.B.F. realised £[illegible].

British Movietone News this week covers scenes of Tripoli, Roosevelt speaking to Congress, torpedoed sailors being rescued from the sea, and America's latest transport 'plane. Thursday's reel will show the Lord Mayor entertaining Allied ranks, P.O. Penny come, Wellingtons as mine detectors, Middle East inspection and the Eighth Army.

London and H.C. Branch Annual Report

THE unique position of the kinema as the primary medium of entertainment and recreation is appreciatively commented upon in the twenty-fourth annual report of the London and Home Counties branch C.E.A., which was presented to the annual meeting on Tuesday.

This high position accounts, says the report, for the high level of business passing in spite of the Entertainment Duty increase.

The largest number of kinemas with permanent Sunday opening is to be found within the branch area, the report continued, and it naturally followed that attempts by the renters to alter the type of Sunday programme long since established were resisted by your committee. It is evident that there is a tendency for film prices to increase, and in this direction exhibitors must look forward to conditions which will appertain in the future. Whilst there does not appear to be any good reason for exhibitor and renter to battle, there is every good reason for a real joint attempt to deal with this vexed problem.

Requests for assistance and advice in connection with staff depletions still continue, and these have kept the Labour Advisory Committee very active during the year. Concessions have been granted by some licensing authorities, a precedent which it is hoped other authorities will follow.

Sunday opening hours have been stabilised, although towards the end of the year the question of the fixation of hours has arisen upon an approach by religious and kindred organisations to licensing authorities, contending that the hours should be changed so as not to interfere with the attendance of children at Sunday schools. The desire of your committee is to maintain Sunday opening hours as at present, believing that in so doing the national interest is best served, and an early opportunity will be taken of conveying this view to the authority concerned.

Other matters dealt with are the seat price rule of the L.C.C., which exhibitors find it almost impossible to comply with. Satisfaction is expressed that East Ham has decided not to operate a seat price rule.

Membership of the branch has increased to 562 during the year.

MIDLAND TRADE LOSS

The death is announced of a well-known member of the older generation of the Birmingham kinema trade. S. E. Beale, assistant manager of the Newtown Palace, Birmingham, who passed away after a brief illness at the age of 59. He had been associated with the Trade for the past thirty years. In the days of the Walturdaw Film Co. he was "Charles" Hutchin's booking manager, and subsequently had charge of publicity for Universal Pictures, Ltd., in the Birmingham area before transferring his affections to the exhibiting side.

In a letter to Kennedy Russell, musical director on Flanagan and Allen's "Theatre Royal" and composer of the song hit "We'll Smile Again," Charlie Hewett, of Chappell Music Co., tells that he has just recovered from an operation and that as he was being wheeled into the operating theatre the last thing he remembers was a radio blaring the hit number from the film. The number, which is being well featured on the radio, promises to be as big as the pair's "Underneath the Arches."

McCRACKEN RE-ELECTED S. AND E. LANCS CHAIRMAN

Invalid Licence Clauses

AT the annual meeting of the S. and E. Lancs branch of the C.E.A., when J. J. McCracken was re-elected chairman, the problem of migratory employees' insurance was discussed. The damage to films and the inclusion of *ultra vires* clauses in licences were other matters considered.

Concerning migratory employees, H. NEWBOULD thought it would be useful if there were a gentlemen's agreement for proprietors to cancel insurance stamps on the employee's card with the theatre name stamp. This would give the prospective employer an indication where a man was coming from and when he left.

The CHAIRMAN said this had been done in one town. Another exhibitor said he had been reprimanded for cancelling stamps in that manner.

The views of the branch on the war bonus issue are being communicated to headquarters.

Damage to Films

Arising from a letter from L. Harris, of United Artists, Manchester branch, who asked that instructions should be given to operators to exercise the utmost care in the handling of films, in order to protect them from damage, the CHAIRMAN suggested that films should be examined when received at the theatres. That would enable exhibitors to keep a useful check on the way films were received.

Renters should also take similar steps by requiring their examiners to report on the condition of films on being returned. Sometimes films were given a great number of runs and exhibitors were unjustly blamed for their deterioration. Combined action by renters and exhibitors to protect films from damage ought to overcome the trouble.

Coun. J. C. WHITAKER considered the branch should not accept all the blame for damage to films, which in many cases were overworked.

H. WOOLF made reference to "shorts," which often came to hand in a seriously damaged condition.

Don't Talk Figures

In the course of his survey of the principal topics before the General Council, the CHAIRMAN alluded to the charity tax on Sunday opening. His advice to exhibitors was not to supply figures of takings or accounts to the authorities. The same advice also held good in relation to requests for information in connection with the reassessment of theatres. He thought it probable that on the revaluation of kinemas Sunday opening business would be taken into account.

C.T.B.F.

T. H. HARTLEY asked what was being done to increase the revenue of C.T.B.F. J. MATHER replied that authorities were being asked to earmark a proportion of the Sunday opening charity contribution for the C.T.B.F. That had been done in some towns. He was now trying to get 10 per cent. from Bury.

A. PEEL said that in Accrington and Nelson he had for years given two annual Sunday shows for charity, including the C.T.B.F., and had until recently had a choice of pictures from the renting houses. Now, however, the choice of pictures had been refused.

Watch Licences!

J. MATHER made a statement regarding the inclusion of clauses of doubtful validity in licences. He pointed out this danger: if they were accepted for Sunday shows it would be the thin end of the wedge in regard to week-day licences.

There should be particular vigilance on the clause dealing with the admission of children. The attempt to exclude children, whether they were accompanied by an adult or not, was a serious menace. Authorities should be made to realise they were not Hitlers. Exhibitors who felt menaced by local demands could expect full support from the C.E.A.

Fox Settlement

H. WOOLF alluded to the Fox settlement and to the statement by the president that the campaign against Fox would be directed against other renters, if the circumstances were similar.

The CHAIRMAN replied that if there were complaints against the other renters, full details should be given to head office.

Officers for 1943

Business of the annual meeting was soon cleared. It was reported there was a deficit of coppers on the year 1942. Income amounted to £631.

Election of officers and committee:—CHAIRMAN, J. J. McCracken; VICE-CHAIRMAN, Coun. W. Woolstencroft; HON. TREASURER, T. Lewis; DELEGATES, J. J. McCracken, J. Mather, C. Littler, T. Lewis, and Coun. W. Woolstencroft; TRUSTEES, J. J. McCracken, J. Mather, and A. Peel.

COMMITTEE: J. Mather, W. Lloyd, A. Peel, T. H. Hartley, W. Hodgson, R. Stott, H. Smith, and Coun. J. C. Whitaker; SECRETARY, C. Littler.

B. T. Davis

BIRMINGHAM'S NEW VICE-CHAIRMAN

While members of the Birmingham branch deeply regret that continued ill-health resulted in Coun. W. T. Hodge resigning the office of vice-chairman, the nomination of B. T. Davis as his successor received their unanimous approval.

A well-known Birmingham incorporated accountant, Mr. Davis has been directly and intimately associated with the kinema trade during the past sixteen years, and during the whole of that time has been a member of the Branch. Since 1927 he has been a director of the companies controlling various suburban kinemas. At the present time he holds directorships in those associated with the Tivoli, Yardley; Capitol, Ward End; Ashted Row Picture House; Green Lane P.H.; Regent, Ladywood, Olton Cinema and the Penn Cinema, Wolverhampton. In addition he is secretary of those companies and also of the Atlas Picture House Co., Ltd., Birmingham, the controllers of the Atlas Cinema, Stechford, and the Castle Cinema, Castle Bromwich.

A member of the Branch Committee for the past four years, he was appointed a delegate to the General Council a year ago. An ardent worker in the cause of charity, he rendered useful service as hon. secretary of the old Birmingham Kinema Hospital Sunday Fund, and in a similar capacity has proved invaluable to the Birmingham and Midland Trade Benevolent Fund during the past fifteen years.

At St. John's R.C. Church, Burnley, on January 20, Philip Kirk, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Kirk, of Cullyhanna, Newry, Co. Down, was married to Miss Ethna McBreen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. McBreen, Rectory Road, Burnley. The presents included a case of cutlery from the staff of Odeon, where the bride has been secretary and chief cashier for four years.

EALING PAYS TRIBUTE TO GREEK HEROES

Documentary with a Theme

THE documentary with a story theme, a style of production being developed at Ealing, is revealed to have made forceful progress with the making of "Green Testament," now completed by Cavalcanti.

This picture, which promises to be one of the most stirring film records from this war, was originally designed as a short film on the brave resistance put up by Greece. On seeing the prepared scenario, Michael Balcon felt that the subject deserved a broader treatment and therefore sanctioned the making of a full-length documentary.

The almost limitless threads of a nation's story are symbolised by presenting the portrait of one Greek called Leonides, played by Vrassidas Capernaros. Greece is seen through his eyes, both before and after invasion. Leonides joins the heroic Greek army which so nearly finished the dictator off. The film shows him as a saboteur in Athens and as an accomplice in the escapes of many soldiers.

Finally, Crete, Leonides' homeland, is the last stronghold. He determines to get to Britain to carry on the fight.

The story of "Greek Testament" was written by M. Danischewsky. Frank Owen, now a trooper in the R.A.C., has written his self-spoken commentary in collaboration with Angus McPhail. Leonides' story is illustrated on the screen mainly by actual shots: those scenes that have been reconstructed and shot in the studios and on location have been directed by an Ealing newcomer, Charles Hasse. Particularly moving are said to be the scenes of Greece under German occupation. Officers and men of the Greek navy figure prominently, especially in the exciting climax of the fight at sea.

"MRS. MINIVER" HELPS STALINGRAD

What is believed to be the highest sum raised by any kinema in the district for a "good cause" is the sum raised by Manager E. Aspinall, of the Capitol, Bolton, for the A.B.C. "Defence of Stalingrad Fund." The total was £644 8s. 8d.

During the showing "Mrs. Miniver" which he ran for a fortnight, and which broke all records, daily and weekly, for the theatre (50,000 people saw it at 42 screenings and the kinema is a 1,600 seater) collections were made following appeals by local civic officials and Mr. Aspinall which raised a sum of £430 5s. 6d.

EDINBURGH KINEMA FIRE.

Fire which caused considerable damage broke out on Friday afternoon (January 22) in the Salisbury Picture House, Edinburgh. The fire broke out between the first floor and the ground level, and it presented unusual difficulties to the firemen. Lines of hose had to be carried through a hatchway, and smoke helmets and breathing apparatus had to be worn by the N.F.S. men. The fire got a good hold on the building and five pumps had to be operated before it was overcome. This was the fourth fire in the house within recent years.

In the Courts

Cheshire Exhibitor Fined for Overcrowding

SEQUEL TO KINEMA PARTY

Mrs. Hannah Lowe, of Lodge-lane, licensee of the Palladium, Crescent-road, Dukinfield, was at Dukinfield Police Court on Friday last, January 23, fined £5 for permitting the gangways, staircase and passages leading to the exit to be obstructed on December 28.

Sergt. Fryer told the magistrates that at 8.15 p.m. when he and Constable Davis called at the kinema they found the exit door and gangway blocked with people. It would have been impossible for anyone to get to the balcony without struggling through the people. All the seats in the balcony were occupied, and 15 people were standing waiting for seats to be vacated.

Mrs. Lowe said earlier that evening there had been a breakdown in the show and people who would ordinarily have left remained. She agreed that she had sold tickets, but the attendant had not told her that people were standing.

Inspector Withey said there was a similar offence in 1940, when the fine was £2. During the last three months he had twice warned Mrs. Lowe about the same thing.

Mrs. Lowe: You warned me about people being in the vestibule inside.—Inspector Withey: That is part of the gangway, and a place where people should not be standing.

In announcing a fine of £5, the chairman hoped defendant would take special care in future.

CHOCOLATE THEFT SEQUEL.

The theft of chocolates from a cabinet at the Cosham Kinema, Portsmouth, had an unexpected sequel at the Portsmouth Magistrates' Court on January 21, when the manager, Robert Cecil Hawkes, was charged with unlawfully obtaining personal points coupons.

V. Blanchard, Deputy Town Clerk, who prosecuted, said that when it was discovered that the chocolates were missing, Hawkes called the staff together, and gave them ten minutes for the one who had committed the theft to confess. It did not follow, however, that anyone on the staff had committed the theft; it might have been a stranger.

No one confessed, Mr. Blanchard added, and Hawkes then told the staff that each must pay threepence and surrender personal points coupons in respect of the chocolates. He collected 18 coupons and 7s. 4d. in money, but was only charged in respect of four cases.

R. V. Stokes, who defended, entered a plea of guilty and said there was no intention on the part of Hawkes of obtaining coupons for his own greed and satisfaction. Someone stole the chocolates, and Hawkes immediately put the matter in the hands of the police. He had to make good the loss, and the loss of the coupons, and called the staff together to try to find the thief and so that there should be no suspicion on anyone else. He collected 16 coupons and two others that were in respect of purchase.

The Bench imposed a fine of £4 with £3 7s. costs.

AFTER-HOUR DRINKS

The licensee of the Beehive Inn, Rochdale, was last Wednesday fined £15 and costs on two summonses for selling and supplying certain intoxicating liquor outside permitted hours.

The evidence went to show that Margaret Reynolds, an usherette at the Pavilion, arranged two parties for kinema employees at the Beehive, and a subscription list was opened to defray expenses.

The parties were held after the closing of the kinema, and it was alleged that after supper drinks were supplied for which payment was made by Miss Reynolds, who stated in evidence that she made payments to the landlord as she was under the impression that the licensee had obtained the necessary licence.

ANDOVER SOCIAL

Local Kinema Staffs Co-operate

As an exemplification of the spirit of co-operation which can be attained through the friendly efforts of three managers of competitive houses take the methods adopted by the chiefs of the Savoy, the Odeon and the Rex at Andover.

To keep their respective staffs in good cheer and to recompense them in some small measure for the able way they had carried on their duties in difficult times, these three managers arranged a social evening of fun and dancing at the Guildhall for their combined staffs. This initial effort proved so successful that it is now considered likely to become an annual event.

Big U.S. Publicity Campaign

WARNER'S "FLYING FORTRESS"

Heavy advertising and exploitation have backed the launching of "Flying Fortress" throughout the U.S.A., where Warner are bracketing the Teddington picture with such hits as "Yankee Doodle Dandee," "Casablanca," "Now, Voyager" and "Gentleman Jim."

Its première at the Orpheum, Seattle, took just under the house record with 12,500 dollars for the opening week. "Flying Fortress" was tied in with the city's official War Bond drive, while big displays were arranged in conjunction with the Boeing plant which builds the bombers. These displays will be repeated nation-wide.

In the preparation of exhibitors' campaign sheets, Trade-paper advertising and accessories, Warners have given "Flying Fortress" as large an allocation as "Captains of the Clouds."

Elaborate arrangements are now under way for its release in Australia and New Zealand. Meanwhile, the picture continues to score strongly throughout the United Kingdom.

Twenty-six-year-old **Robert Lloyd**, who has been appointed manager of the Plaza, Northam, Southampton, is one of the youngest Odeon managers, and his appointment came after less than twelve months' experience of the business.

Educated at Shrewsbury, Lloyd went on to Sandhurst and was commissioned in the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment in 1936 and went to France with the B.E.F. in September, 1939. Three weeks before Dunkirk he resigned his commission on medical grounds from further service with the Forces. He then entered the kinema business in his home town and is making rapid progress.

8 P.M. CURFEW FOR CHILDREN AT GATESHEAD

Licensing Bench Reques

AN appeal to mana... of kine...
...mas in the P... -on-Tyne
petty sessional div... not to
allow children o... ementary
school age in kinema... er 8 p.m.
was made at Gates... County
Police Court by the ... man, G.
Stirling Newall.

The magistrates, he sa... were con-
cerned at the increase in ... number of
juvenile delinquents and ... ought the
co-operation of parents ... well as
kinema managers to chec... t. It was
not possible for the magis... s to make
a definite order. Such ... order was
made at one time, but ... celled in a
higher court.

The magistrates did, how... er, now ask
managers and parents to ... o-operate in
giving effect to their wish...

It was also undesirable ... e said, that
perambulators should ... taken to
kinemas. In one instance ... the superintendent of police had not... d 13 prams
in the cloakroom of one k... ema. In the
event of an air raid pram... would cause
obstruction, and he asked ... managers to
do their best to stop the ... practice.

Regarding children who ... accompanied
their parents, the superintendent of police said that although he raised no objection he hoped parents would exercise discretion.

A PROUD MAN

THREE HUTCHINS ON SERVICE

The fourth and youngest son of Charles W. Hutchin, Midland manager for the Walturdaw Co., has just joined the Forces, so that three of the quartette are now on service. His eldest son, Sergeant-Pilot C. W. Hutchin, formerly manager of the Ritz, Bordesley Green, has been on active service with the R.A.F. in the Middle East for the past eleven months. Then in the early stages of the war "George," who assisted his father in the running of the Birmingham branch, joined the R.A.S.C. He rapidly earned his sergeant's stripes and was recently temporarily released from his unit for munition work somewhere in the Midlands.

Last week Michael J. Hutchin, the youngest of the quartette, left the Birmingham branch of Warner Bros., where he was a member of the office staff, to join the R.A.F. "Charles's" other son saw service with the Royal Corps of Signals in pre-war days, and although suffering from a serious disability following frost-bite sustained while on service, "Tony" Hutchin is maintaining the family association with the kinema trade as despatch manager at Warner Bros.' Birmingham branch.

C. A. Crathorn, after ... years with
Odeon Theatres, Ltd., ... anager, ad-
visor, area administrator ... nd assistant
London theatre control... has recently
resigned his position ... is at the
moment free to negotiat...

Before joining Odeon ... A. C." was
general manager of a ... circuit in
the Midlands and had ... sive experi-
ence with film-booking ... variety. He
was also with A.B.C ... keen and
enthusiastic showman, ... many show-
manship awards to h... dit, he was
one of the first twelve ... cted in 1931
to form the nucleus o... Kine. Com-
pany of Showmen, an... er that date
among many other ... ements, won
the Gaumont British ... competition
on three occasions.

He is seeking a ... either the
theatre or kinema wi... here is scope
of super showmanship ... unbounding
energy, or is desirous ... ating a hal
preferably in the Great ... ondon area

WHITE CINEMA CLUB

Social Centre for Entertainment Trade

THE future of the White Cinema Club was discussed at the annual meeting in Belfast, at which it was decided to carry on as a social organisation not only for exhibitors and renters, but for everyone engaged in the Northern Ireland entertainment Industry.

J. D. Russell presided.

With the formation of such a strong branch of the C.E.A., it was pointed out that all the work affecting the Industry was now done by the Northern Ireland branch, and the club which had been responsible for the formation of the branch and the Northern Ireland Cinemas and Theatres Benevolent Fund was now engaged in purely social activities.

Officials for the current year were elected as follows:—

Frank Keogh was elected president; A. V. Froggatt, vice-president; Coun. George Gray, treasurer; and Freddie Spiers, hon. secretary.

Committee: Messrs. J. D. Russell, G. Morrison, A. Reynolds, T. J. Furey, H. M'Mullan, J. Menary, H. Wilton and R. Hayward.

Tribute was paid to the work of A. M. Goldstein, who had relinquished the hon. secretaryship, and he was elected an honorary life member.

Northern C.E.A. Branch Executive

Branch Officers

W. CARR

Officers were elected or re-elected as follows: Chairman, Lieut. WILLIAM CARR; vice-chairman, Lieut. E. R. EADIE.

Treasurer, S. Bamford; trustees, S. Bamford, James MacHarg and W. S. Gibson; N.A.T.K.E. Conciliation Board, W. Carr, F. M. Horsfall, W. S. Gibson, E. C. Crowe and B. Renwick; auditor, Fred Jackson (no changes).

Delegates

On a ballot, Charles Chipchase became the branch's eighth delegate, W. Carr, W. S. Gibson, E. J. Hinge, F. M. Horsfall, F. W. Morrison, Thomas Thompson and T. H. Scott being re-elected. In addition to the officers and delegates, the following were elected to the Executive: R. Gilbertson, W. Prodgers, W. Westwood, J. S. Snell, T. F. Massicks, B. Renwick, J. C. Bell, S. Dawe, F. C. Ewing, E. C. Crowe, E. S. Smith, F. Jordan.

Received with Thanks

W. L. Grice, hon. treasurer of the Birmingham and Midland Trade Benevolent Fund, announces that he has just received from the Cinema Trade Benevolent Fund a cheque for £261 13s., representing 50 per cent. of this year's "Cinema Day" takings from exhibitors in the Midland area. He also acknowledges the receipt of the £650 donation from the Birmingham Sunday Opening Charity Fund, and a cheque for £25 from the Stourbridge Sunday Kinema Charity Fund.

Northern C.E.A. £1,063 Cheque for Newcastle Charities

THE Chief Constable of Newcastle (F. J. Crawley), the Chairman of the Watch Committee (Richard Embleton), the City Treasurer (Ernest Long) and George Turnbull, representative of the renters, attended for the pleasant ceremony of handing over to the Newcastle Police-Aided Association a cheque for £1,063, being half the net proceeds of the two annual Sunday kinema charity shows. This figure created a fine new record for an effort which, in 11 years, had raised nearly £10,000 for the Benevolent Fund and this excellent local charity.

ALFRED SMITH, in handing over the cheque, explained that he had made the statutory deduction of 5 per cent. and—smiling at Mr. Long—said that he suspected that the City Treasurer had attended to-day to assure himself that the organiser had not pocketed the odd amount. He intimated also that a similar cheque had been sent to Mr. Bromhead, whose grateful letter of acknowledgment he read.

Accepting the cheque, Mr. Crawley said: "You know me, gentlemen, and I know you. You know how grateful I am without my attempting the fulsome phrases which do not come readily to my tongue.

"The most cordial relations have always prevailed between us. In your generosity, you have helped a cause which is very close to my heart. On my part, I have tried to apply the regulations with reason.

"I look on you as good friends and good citizens and, on behalf of the poorest of the city's poor children—to whom every penny of this money will find its way in kind—I do thank you."

Service to the Public

Coun. EMBLETON, who numbered many exhibitors among his personal friends, said that the success of the charity shows indicated clearly the existence of a public demand for Sunday entertainment.

"In my opinion," he said, "Sunday kinemas must be provided. It does not really matter, gentlemen, what you prefer. It certainly does not matter what I would wish. We are servants of the public. This is a democracy, and the majority has a right to have its way. All the evidence is that the majority wish the kinemas open on Sundays. It is for us, as good democrats, to heed and act."

On behalf of the renters, Mr. TURNBULL said that the success of these shows was a source of great gratification to himself and his colleagues. "In the future, as in the past," he said, "you may rely upon us to do everything we can to assist in making a new financial record for the two funds each successive year."

VIGOROUS NORTHERN CHAIRMAN

Hands Out Home Truths at Annual Meeting

MEMBERS of the Northern branch, at the annual meeting, were warned by the Chairman (Lieut. William Carr) not to allow the current era of false prosperity to blind them to the difficulties which would assail the Industry in the future.

"Too many uninitated members of the public have come to regard the kinema as a gold-mine for its proprietors," he said. "They do not realise that, largely, we are now merely collectors for the Government and, the consequences of that misconception, if uncorrected, will be serious in the future.

"Everything conspires to put rose-tinted spectacles on the public whenever they look into the finance of the Industry. We have raised such huge sums for charity with such an apparent lack of effort that people tend to suppose that, like Midas, we need only to touch anything to turn it into gold."

He cited the £200.000 raised for the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, the £15.000 for the C.T.B.F., and the astonishing yields of collections for other charities.

"We get little credit for that to-day," he added, "and, paradoxically, we shall have to 'live it down' when the madness of the world has passed again into modest sanity."

Bigger Delegations

When the ballot papers for the election of delegates were passed round, WILLIAM PRODGERS (A.B.C.) asked for the attendances of the seven sitting delegates at London meetings. A good deal of explanation was necessary to make clear that, while every delegate was entitled to attend every meeting, it was understood and accepted that only the delegates who were members of central committees would attend in ordinary circumstances. Eight delegates were elected in order that the branch might vote its full strength on any issue which the executive regarded as of vital importance.

Carbons

In reference to the failure of some members to order their full quota of carbons, Mr. MORRISON suggested that this was an extremely short-sighted practice. "If your failure to demand full quota results in the manufacturers' production permit being revised downward the consequences may be serious for all of us," he said.

E. J. HINGE also stressed the point.

Ultra Vires Conditions

In further reference to the General Council, he advised members to resist strongly any attempt by licensing Justices to impose, as a condition of Sunday opening, that no children be admitted. "They have not the smallest right of power to impose any such restriction," said Mr. Hinge. "Any member who encountered such a Bench should notify the secretary forthwith."

Sub-standard Competition

In reference to the War Office representations that the supply of 16-mm. films to isolated units be facilitated, Mr. HINGE was of opinion that the exhibitors could agree to this without fear that it would affect their business even though, in odd cases, units were stationed within the two miles limit of a kinema.

"The condition is," he said, "that the films shall be not less than 12 months old." He admitted, however, that certain aspects of the camp kinema were a little perturbing. It was not, however, politic to discuss these points in public at this juncture.

Fuel Economy

Paying tribute to the expertness of S. Hart (G.-B.) in the matter of economic lighting and heating, Mr. Hinge intimated that, faced with a demand for further economies of fuel, Mr. Hart had outlined a system of tests and the Government authorities had consented to be guided by the results obtained. "This," he added, "is just to illustrate the useful little jobs the Association does which, ordinarily, escape the notice of members."

Propaganda Dilemma

Dealing with the awkward proposal that the exhibitors should assist the authorities in their campaign against venereal disease, Mr. Hinge intimated that some members had been prepared to undertake the showing of such a film in ordinary programme time.

"For my part," he said, "I have to recognise that a point can be reached at which propaganda and entertainment must part company.

"If the Ministry of Health cares to sponsor a film and make arrangements for it to be shown to selected audiences, its purpose, I believe, would be achieved much more certainly than by thrusting such a film upon a normal audience in the guise of the entertainment for which they paid their admission charges.

"You do not lecture people successfully if they feel themselves to have been tricked into attending your lecture. I am pleased to tell you that this view commanded majority support in General Council. I hope it does so in the Northern branch."

The applause which greeted this statement indicated clearly not merely the agreement of the members, but their relief at the avoidance of a form of propaganda which most members felt would have been embarrassing both to exhibitors and their patrons.

Fox Echoes

In a brief reference to the dispute with Twentieth Century-Fox, Mr. Hinge was of opinion that, generally, the settlement was satisfactory. At the same time, he knew that odd members are not wholly satisfied.

General complaints and casual generalisations were quite useless, but if any member had a specific complaint relative to marked changes in the established form of his trading with the company they should place the branch in possession of the facts.

D

MORE PROTESTS AGAINST RENTERS' CONDITIONS

Hants and East Dorset Resolution to H.Q.

THERE were further vigorous protests against the treatment of many independent exhibitors by the renters in the matter of flat bookings at the annual meeting on Tuesday of the Hants and East Dorset branch of the C.E.A. at Bournemouth. Members also had the quota position fully explained and discussed suggestions from Western branches for re-grading of kinemas.

The meeting was presided over by Ald. G. W. A. Wright, who was unanimously re-elected chairman for the coming year. Geoffrey Bravery was elected vice-chairman in place of Coun. H. P. E. Mears.

New Grading Proposals

The question of the re-grading of kinemas was introduced by the reading of a letter from Bristol stating that at a meeting of the Bristol and West of England, Devon and Cornwall and South Wales Branches it was agreed that the present method of C.E.A. grading was obsolete. It had therefore been decided to put forward to the General Council suggestions for a new system. The letter included certain suggestions as a basis for discussion. These are quoted in full in our report of the Bristol Branch meeting in another column.

Disapproval

The CHAIRMAN said the matter had been considered by the national body, and it appeared that it was decided that at present no alteration in subscriptions seemed necessary. When it did become necessary to deal with the matter, the suggested new scales would be circulated in good time to members.

He thought it was time the question was considered, but the West of England proposals did not seem to hit the nail on the head. For instance, he thought the gap between £75 and £150 should be narrowed, and it did not seem fair to decrease the payment of the £25-£75 hall from ten to eight guineas and increase the subscription of the smaller man.

Coun. MEARS said it seemed to him that the proposal before them was to relieve the burden of the rich and to put it on to the poor man. He was glad that the General Council had disapproved it.

E. TURNBULL suggested that the scale might be based on rateable value, but it was explained that the differences in the assessable value of property in various parts of the country would make such a basis unfair.

Capt. CLEMENT pointed out that the present basis of capacity was also unfair, as many halls were able, under their local conditions of opening, to have many more programmes per week than others.

It was generally agreed that some form of re-grading was necessary, and a committee was appointed to discuss the matter and report to a subsequent meeting. Those appointed were: Messrs. Adams, Sowerbutts, Coleman, Davies Benyon, and the officers.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary (H. H. MITCHENER) reported that the branch membership was now 70, representing every kinema in the branch's area.

He detailed the good work done during the year as a result of the meetings of the branch and of the Southampton and Bournemouth sub-sections, and referred to the considerate manner in which deputations from the branch to different local authorities had been received on such matters as the method of air raid warnings, fire guard, opening and closing times, etc.

He also expressed thanks to the branch and sub-section officers, and to the officers of the national body for work done and help received.

Reserves

The chairman's report was agreed to, and the Hon. Treasurer, Capt. CLEMENT reported that the branch had increased its balance in hand for the year from £260 to £309.

The financial report was adopted.

A Token

A sum of 30 guineas was voted from branch funds for the purchase of a gift to Mrs. Mitchener, to be presented to Mr. Mitchener, secretary, at the next meeting of the branch, as an appreciation of his special efforts arising out of the war on behalf of individual members of the branch during the past year.

Officers

It was decided to leave the matter of nominations for the presidency and vice-presidency of the association to the discretion of delegates.

In addition to the chairman and vice-chairman of the branch mentioned above, the following officers, etc., were appointed: hon. treasurer, G. H. CLEMENT; delegate to General Purposes Committee, Ald. G. W. A. WRIGHT.

Delegates: Ald. WRIGHT and G. BRAVERY.

Trustees: Clr. H. P. E. MEARS, Ald. G. W. A. WRIGHT and S. H. PARSONS. Auditor, R. W. FOGARTY. Committee: Ald. WRIGHT, Mr. BRAVERY, Mr. CLEMENT, Clr. MEARS (chairman of the Bournemouth Sub-section), E. TURNBULL (hon. secretary of the Bournemouth Sub-section), S. H. PARSONS, W. E. MOULAND, B. L. MAYER, A. H. SOWERBUTTS, —. ADAMS, B. MILLER, —. CARTER, DAVIES-BENYON, and the Secretary (H. H. MITCHENER).

Quota Position

The CHAIRMAN, dealing with the film quota position, said the General Council were not unmindful of the difficulties of the smaller man in his efforts to avoid failing to fulfil the conditions of the Quota Act. They had spent days listening to all sorts of remedies for it, and the one remedy which was supported by many members of the Council was to amend the Act.

Amendments had been asked for, but they had been told by the General Secretary and other officials of the C.E.A that in the middle of a war they could not stop to amend the Film Quota Act. That he did not believe, because there was evidence of other Acts being amended.

The number of exhibitors who failed to show the prescribed percentage of British films for the last three years were: 1939, 437; 1940, 316; 1941, 1,402. The total number of exhibitors was about 4,000.

Of those who did not comply, the following numbers were recommended for prosecution: 1939, 8; 1940, 9; 1941, 79. Of these there were actually 5, 3 and 4 prosecutions respectively.

For the year 1942 just concluded there would be possibly many more failures to comply with the quota. The C.E.A. were now making representations to the Board of Trade for a thorough survey of every exhibitor's fulfilments for 1942; when they had the whole of the evidence he supposed there would be well up to 2,000 who had not complied.

This would be further proof that the quota as it was at present was clearly unworkable, but until they had the 1942 figures the matter would rest. But the fact that 1,402 failures to comply brought only four prosecutions proved that even the Board of Trade was already recognising that the Act was unworkable. The cases in which prosecutions were taken were flagrant ones.

He could assure the members, however, that the whole matter would be reconsidered in the light of the 1942 figures.

Flat Rate Bookings

There were many comments about the difficulties exhibitors were experiencing in regard to securing flat rate bookings from renters without taking a rising percentage of percentage bookings.

One member said a renter's sales manager told him that he should have sold out his kinema while the going was good. He expressed the opinion that the K.R.S. members would not mind getting all the smaller independent exhibitors out of business.

Several members said they had written to the C.E.A. about the position but had not received replies. One member stated he received a reply to the effect that the situation was under consideration, and he, with other members, would be notified when a decision was come to.

There was also strong criticism of the General Council for not taking some strong action over the matter, and a suggestion was made that the branch should go direct to the Board of Trade with a statement of the facts of the situation.

Eventually it was decided to pass a resolution to the effect that at that meeting certain evidence was supplied on the rentals question which made the branch of the opinion that the return to the status quo by 20th-Century Fox had not been in any way effective.

Dick Powell, Mary Martin and Rudy Vallee in a scene from HAPPY GO LUCKY (Paramount)

PARAMOUNT'S SPECTACULAR MUSICAL

"Happy Go Lucky"

CALCULATED to furnish escape from war woes, Paramount's gala musical comedy, "Happy Go Lucky," which will be Trade shown in the near future, was filmed on sets more elaborate than filmgoers are likely to see again for the duration.

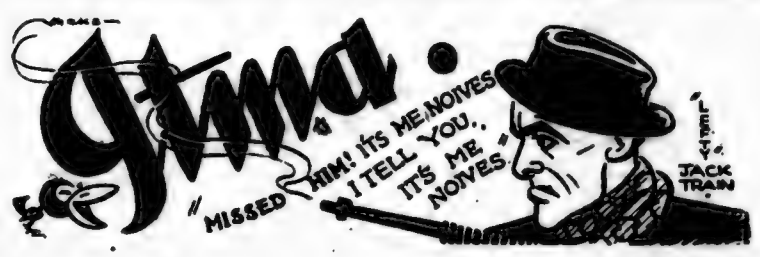
Five stars are to be seen in this gay story, namely, Mary Martin, Dick Powell, Eddie Bracken, Betty Hutton, whose second picture it is, and Rudy Vallee. Others in the large cast are Mabel Paige, Clem Bevans, Eric Blore, Lillian Randolph and many of the loveliest girls in Hollywood. Curtis Bernhardt directed "Happy Go Lucky" which is in Technicolor.

In one sequence, Mary Martin revives what has been described as the grandfather of all hot tunes, the ever-popular "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay," with a background of male voices. Mary also dances to a new arrangement of the famous old melody.

Rudy Vallee, whose screen career has taken a comedy turn, has much the same kind of part in which he scored so heavily in "The Palm Beach Story." As in that subject, he wears glasses, is definitely on the prudish side, and is supposed to be painfully shy in the presence of women. Incidentally, although he sang his way to fame he is the only one of the five stars who does not sing a note in the story.

The story concerns two big-city girls who visit a tropical resort in the Caribbean to seek their fortunes. Mary Martin is a former cigarette girl from a New York night club who poses as a millionaire's daughter with the object of marrying the richest man she can find. Complications set in when Mary loses her heart to an attractive beachcomber, even when the wealthy suitor is willing.

To be Trade shown at the Carlton Theatre, Tuesday, February 2, at 10.30 a.m.



Sydney Box discusses a scene with Roland Culver for ON APPROVAL, the celebrated Lonsdale farce, now in production at Denham (G.F.D.)

Leeds Rating Questioned

COUNCIL'S REPLY "UNSATISFACTORY"

The reply of the Town Clerk to the protest of Leeds exhibitors against the rating increases was not regarded as satisfactory by the Leeds branch of the C.E.A., and it was decided that a further communication be forwarded, reiterating their request for the points involved to be submitted to the Rating Committee.

Mr. Rush said that in his letter he had emphasised that the increases dated from April, whereas it was understood they were to be from September 17, and that therefore the City Treasurer had not kept faith with the proposals. The City Treasurer's point was that increases must go back to April 1, and if exhibitors were under misapprehension they should lodge fresh appeals.

Mr. Hylton said that the Treasurer was right in his reading of the Act, but the fact was that their request for the matter to be placed before the Rating Committee had not been complied with.

The Chairman: We accepted the September date on a printed proposal in good faith.

Mr. Hylton: We have been cheated.

Fire Precautions

A further communication from the Chief Constable, who had been asked to give information of kinemas not regarded as efficient in the way of fire appliances, was read. This was to the effect that the Fire Force requirements would be adequately covered if water-hose reels were provided on the stage of kinemas licensed for the purpose of stage plays.

Manchester Nominees

Changes have taken place in the nominees of eight kinemas in the Manchester and Salford branch C.E.A. Details:—

Regal, Levenshulme, A. Sidi succeeds F. J. Burns; Don, Ancoats, F. Robins succeeds H. Ayre; Rota, Denton, L. Starfield succeeds H. R. Davies; Cosmo, Denton, H. R. Davies succeeds L. Starfield; Lido, Burnage, Mrs. E. Hickman succeeds C. Chariton; Savoy, Chorlton, R. H. Cox succeeds F. Kirkham; Magnet, Newton Heath, A. E. Wright succeeds Miss Morris; Four Ways, Moston, T. Coglan succeeds G. Atkinson.

Record Year for Scots C.T.B.F.

£40,000 CAPITAL

The report to be presented at the annual general meeting on Wednesday shows that the Fund has just completed a record year. For the first time in history the revenue exceeds £9,000, the actual total being £9,420 9s. 6d. The expenditure amounted to £3,521 5s. 5d. and the balance of £5,899 4s. 1d. has been transferred to capital account which now stands at £40,809 12s. There are now 41 life members, and the Fund is continuing to receive the liberal support from all sections of the Trade throughout Scotland.

Glasgow Cinema Sundays raised the useful sum of £6,474 1s. 1d., of which, of course, the Benevolent Fund received one-third. Edinburgh Cinema Sundays raised £2,931 19s. 8d., of which the Benevolent Fund received £732 19s. 11d. Dundee section made special collections during the year which realised £794 10s. 11d. Rutherglen Cinema Sunday raised £177 5s. 8d., and Clydebank £44 6s. 6d.

The winner of the Ormiston Shield for the best staff box during the year was the Princes, Springburn, the runners-up being the Plaza, Govan, and the Grosvenor, Hillhead—all A.B.C. halls. To mark the achievement of the Springburn house in winning the shield three years in succession, life membership is to be granted to the hall and a special certificate to the runners-up. In addition, the Thomas Ormiston Memorial Fund has a capital account of £964 3s. 8d.

D. A. Stewart, in his effort to raise £10,000 for the "Aid to Russia" Fund from A.B.C. halls in Scotland has had wonderful support from all the houses, and in the Regal kinema the other evening Sir P. J. Dollan, after addressing the audience, auctioned a Russian rouble, which brought £40. Davie is very sanguine of leaving his last year's figure of £6,000 well behind and attaining his goal of £10,000.

O. A. Paice, having been discharged on medical grounds from H.M. Forces after three years' service, is anxious to return to kinema management.

He was for six years with Portsmouth Town Cinemas, Ltd., and previously for four years with Cinema House, Ltd. He would, if possible, like to restart in the same territory.

STRENUOUS LEEDS ANNUAL

Quota, Sunday Opening, Rentals, Shorter Programmes

THE fact that Sunday opening might be ventilated in the near future in Leeds was mentioned by Claude H. Whincup, Chairman of the Leeds branch, in his review of the past year.

He said the year might be described as of a preventive rather than of a constructive nature, for the officers have been constantly endeavouring to minimise the effects of war time legislation, often interpreted and applied in a seriously prejudicial manner.

The first activity was with the Local Man-Power Board, followed by discussion on a number of occasions with the Chief Constable regarding the times of opening and closing.

"In all these contacts we were received most cordially, and our submissions sympathetically considered.

Whincup's Survey

"Consideration of the impossibility of fulfilling the Quota regulations, and the absurd suggestion for overcoming it from an official source, emphasises the urgent need for amendment of legislation," continued the Chairman.

"Proposals for increases in rating assessments have probably occupied more of the time of the branch officers than any other problem. There is a disturbing moral issue arising from the apparent breach of good faith on the part of one or the other of two prominent officials."

The Sunday Problem

Mr. Whincup observed that the vexatious problem—so far as this branch is concerned—of Sunday opening appeared to be rapidly developing.

"I have good reason," he said, "to think that within several weeks this will be permitted in Leeds. Although members are divided in their views, I hope all will be united in strongly opposing the imposition of any unusual demands and restrictions." As a final word, he said that the bogy of "circuits *versus* independents" had not so far presented itself, as the interests of both had been common.

A Good Record

In his annual report the Secretary, E. M. Rush, indicated that the membership numbered 200. The Chief Constable of Leeds reported to the Watch Committee that for the third year in succession no proceedings have been taken against any of the 69 kinemas in the city under the Act of 1909. The total seating capacity at kinemas is 61,987, or one seat for every seven of the population.

During the year 35 applications to hold Sunday charity concerts in kinemas were granted, as well as 30 applications for Sunday concerts not for charity.

Mr. Rush paid tribute to the untiring efforts of the chairman, C. H. Whincup, not only as delegate to General Council and General Purposes Committee, but also in contacts with the Chief Constable on alteration of closing time, R.A.F. collections, transport, C.T.B.F. Benevolent Funds, etc.

Paying a tribute to Film Transport Services, Mr. Rush said the setting up of stand-by programmes certainly relieved exhibitors' minds that they had programmes to carry on. The meetings between exhibitors, renters and transport have been of great service to all concerned.

The 1943 Captain and Crew

Claude H. Whincup was re-elected chairman for 1943. There are no changes in other offices, the officials being as follows: H. Hopkins, vice-chairman; E. M. Rush, secretary; G. Hylton, treasurer; E. Freedman, accountant; A. Cunningham, E. M. Rush, E. Freedman, delegates; C. H. Whincup, C. P. Metcalfe, H. Hopkins, W. Prodgers, General Purposes Committee.

The committee of the branch comprises E. Freedman, A. E. Shaverin, T. Shayler, J. T. Beaumont, E. Mitchell, E. Horsfall, W. Rhodes, Mrs. Gaines, F. Sykes, Councillor F. Gummersall, J. Jesson.

The Arbitration Board is: E. Freedman, H. Hopkins, J. Jesson, T. Shayler, C. P. Metcalfe.

Representatives on the Conciliation Board (N.A.T.K.E.): C. H. Whincup, H. Hopkins, C. P. Metcalfe, W. Prodgers, G. Hylton.

A resolution was passed reverting to the former system of nomination of officers, etc., at the annual meeting, in place of the system adopted at the previous annual meeting for nominations to be in 14 days in advance.

The annual meeting decided that for the future delegates' expenses shall be first-class railway fare and 30s. a day for expenses.

Grading of Films

Referring to the grading of films, as mentioned at the General Council meeting, C. P. Metcalfe said that there were certain misapprehensions about the attitude of the Association, which had always recognised the right of the individual renter to grade his films. The attitude of 1938 was to prevent the K.R.S., as a body, grading renters' films. The Fox settlement was regarded as maintaining the status quo in regard to grading.

Challenging this, Mr. Hylton said that while the K.R.S. as such may not be grading, they were cleverer than that. They were doing it at the Trocadero and not in Old Compton Street.

J. X. Prendergast said it was ridiculous to say there was no obvious reply. The obvious reply was that there were sellers and bookers. If the sellers got together, let the bookers get together.

Charles Metcalfe said the difficulty was that while only nine or ten people were concerned with the K.R.S., there were thousands of bookers, which made it more difficult for them to get together except regionally. However, if no move came from the C.E.A., there might be action from the Board of Trade.

Suspend the Quota Act

When Mr. Metcalfe mentioned that the General Council had not proceeded with the Leeds resolution to press for suspension of the Quota Act, but had supported the Birmingham branch resolution *re* the amelioration of the Act, Harry Hopkins said he was happy to have started something which had roused the country.

When 1,500 exhibitors had broken the law and the Board of Trade could only prosecute four, he thought that no man, so long as he was trying, should paralyse his patrons with some of the junk they were told would fulfil quota footage.

It was unfortunate that British production was so hampered when a fine job was being done. Some of the British films shown recently were equal to anything made anywhere.

Jack Prendergast said that if there was a law to show British films it was not right that certain interests should have the first claim. The fair solution was for British films to be on the open market for the benefit of all who were willing to buy.

Mr. Metcalfe remarked that there had been talk of rationing, but if it seriously arose they would not know what they wanted unless it was widely discussed.

KINEMATOGRAPH WEEKLY
January 28, 1943

THE IMMORTAL SERGEANT

TOO BIG TO KEEP!

TOO BIG TO KEEP!

TOO BIG TO KEEP!

Based on John Brophy's Best Selling Drama of the

HENRY FONDA . . . MAUREEN

THOMAS MITCHELL . REGINALD GARDINER . D

LONDON TRADE SHOW: TUESDAY FEB. 2, CENT

ORTAL

FILM

G TO KEEP!

TOO BIG TO KEEP!

a of the Libyan Desert and starring

A. GREEN . 'HARA

NER . Directed by JOHN M. STAHL

CENTURY THEATRE 10.30 & 2.30

A WESTERN UNION OF BRANCHES

Regrading Leads to New Development

A SCHEME was announced at Bristol C.E.A. meeting which may develop into the formation of district councils of the association. In the future the arrangement with the Devon and Cornwall and South Wales branches is to hold regular meetings of representatives every six months.

Considerable dissatisfaction had been expressed by the branch at the present method of the C.E.A. grading, it being contended that this had been in force so many years that it should be brought up to date and the wide classification of to-day be put on a more equitable basis.

In pursuance of this policy they gratefully acknowledged the help and interest of the neighbouring branches of South Wales and Devon and Cornwall. It was hoped that in future the three branches would arrange a meeting every six months.

The following scheme for regrading was put forward by the branch: AA halls with a capacity of over £150 should pay a subscription of £21; A halls, capacity over £75, subscription £12 12s.; B halls, capacity over £25, subscription £8 8s.; C halls, capacity over £12 10s., subscription £6 6s.; D halls, capacity under £12 10s., subscription £3 3s. While this was supported solidly by the West, it was not accepted by the General Council.

During the year three more Sunday licences were granted, and the relations between the branch and the licensing authorities had continued to be good.

Regrading Policy

At the monthly meeting, which followed immediately after the annual meeting, GEORGE REES gave a report on the debate in the General Council on the branch's motion on the grading question. He first referred to the resolution sent by the branch committee on the subject to the L.F.P. Committee, following the meeting of representatives of the three West Country branches, which agreed that the present method of grading was obsolete.

When he saw the agenda at the General Council meeting he noticed that his motion on the matter came just before the report of the Legal, Finance and Parliamentary Committee, and he was asked if he would be willing to follow the report of the committee instead of moving his motion before it. He said he would do so provided that there was no political motive connected with the matter.

He stated the case as strongly as possible for a change in the system of grading, and he was supported by the chairmen of the other two West Country branches. They had a very strong case, but they were defeated by a narrow margin. The L.F.P. Committee had decided that the time was not opportune to interfere with the grading of kinemas.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Fuller's contention was that the Committee was perfectly satisfied with the revenue of the C.E.A. at the present moment, and therefore did not wish to bring forward any alteration of the grading. They did not contest the argument put forward by the West Country.

In reply to a question by a member, the CHAIRMAN said the majority of the members of the General Council had followed the L.F.P. Committee on the matter.

One New Appointment to Bristol Branch Executive

DISSATISFACTION AT FOX SETTLEMENT

BRISTOL branch has enjoyed a year of progress, and at the annual meeting both the Chairman and the Treasurer were able to give members very pleasant reports of the result of the activities of the branch during 1942, although the regrading proposals to which the branch has devoted much time were turned down by the General Council.

Regret was expressed at the decision of A. B. Atkinson not to seek re-election as vice-chairman, and the vacancy was filled by E. C. Rogers. Discussion at the business meeting centred chiefly round the 20th Century-Fox agreement and the threat of seven and four-day bookings.

Stocktaking

Coun. F. G. W. CHAMBERLAIN, who presided, in his review of the year said 1942, although an anxious year, had been a successful one. It was to the credit of the Association that the membership of the branch had increased from 136 to 141 in the fourth year of the war.

During the year the war bonus to employees had been increased to 25 per cent. to those earning up to £3, and 20 per cent. to those earning over £3. Their relations with the N.A.T.K.E. had remained good.

They had been compelled to close one day during the invasion exercises after the local authorities had obtained compulsory power.

During May the entertainment tax was raised to double the amount, but after negotiation with the Government it was so arranged that while collecting the tax they were able to charge a little extra for themselves. On the whole it had worked well.

The branch took part in the controversy over the booking policy of 20th Century-Fox, and did not agree with the terms of settlement; time would show whether they were right.

Thanks and Regrets

In thanking the officers for their support, Mr. Chamberlain expressed his regret at the decision of Mr. Atkinson to retire from the vice-chairmanship. They had worked together for a good many years, and they were all very grateful to him for the services he had rendered and the good advice he had always been ready to give. He hoped that it would not mean that Mr. Atkinson's interest in the C.E.A. would lessen in any way, and that he would remain with them for many years

In thanking Mr. Rees and Mr. Seal for their assistance on the General Council, he said he could assure members that it was through no fault of Mr. Rees that the General Council did not see eye to eye with them on the grading question. But what the West thought to-day the powers-that-be might think to-morrow.

Branch Exchequer

Presenting the financial statement, the treasurer, G. H. BLACKBURN, said they had had a record year in the way of subscriptions, which amounted to £291 and the year's work showed a balance of £103 0s. 9d.

The CHAIRMAN congratulated Mr. Blackburn on his very excellent report, and remarked that he hoped he would keep up the good work

Charity

The meeting voted the sum of £10 10s to the C.T.B.F., and another £10 10s to Glebelands.

As chairman and treasurer of the Area Committee of the C.T.B.F., G. H. BLACKBURN also presented the report of the Benevolent Fund, remarking that he hoped it would stimulate interest in the work of the fund on the part of those who were already working on its behalf, and also secure the assistance of the many others who did little or nothing in that direction.

The balance in hand was £31 6s. 7d., of which £25 was a donation from the Bristol Sunday Kinemas Fund. It was a matter of deep regret that the various authorities throughout the area dealing with the allocation of the large amounts which are being paid for the privilege of Sunday opening should decline to donate a fair proportion to the Trade's own charity.

At the moment, to his knowledge, two authorities only in that area were making any contribution. One was Bristol (£25), and the other the Dorset C.C. (£10).

Without accepting as a principle the payment of any amount from their takings to a charity fund, they could ask that a portion of it at any rate should be given to the Trade Benevolent Fund, as without the help of the Trade there would be nothing for anybody.

More Help Wanted

There had been a slight increase in the number of staff collecting boxes in operation, and a considerable increase in the amount of contributions received, but there were still over 100 theatres in the area without a collecting box. If every kinema in the territory had a box bringing in only one shilling a week the income from that source would be £350 a year instead of, as at present an income of £75.

The committee thanked those managers who had given their valued help in that way. The success or otherwise of the scheme depended upon the enthusiasm of the manager, as a collecting box left on the top shelf of the office gathered nothing but dust.

The Stalwarts

The election of officers resulted in very little alteration. Coun. F. G. W. Chamberlain was re-elected chairman, and G. H. Blackburn treasurer.

The vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Atkinson from the vice-chairmanship was filled by the election of E. C. Rogers (Gloucester).

The Chairman and George Rees were re-elected delegates to the General Council, and Mr. ROGERS was elected as third delegate, an office in which he succeeds F. A. Seal. The members of the committee were re-elected *en bloc*.

Carbons

Dealing with the question of carbons, F. A. SEAL pointed out that many exhibitors were not taking their full ration, and if they did not do so it might prove very detrimental in the future. He also asked them to salvage the residue from carbons and to return the empty cartons.

A. B. ATKINSON asked if the cartons would be collected by the Film Transport people.

The CHAIRMAN replied in the affirmative.

BERT. RIEGO inquired if it would be possible for an exhibitor to have his ration increased.

The CHAIRMAN said that could be done. He thought it would certainly be wise to keep a fair supply in hand.

Employees' Day

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN expressed the hope that every member would get his employees to contribute to the Employees' Kinema Day, in February.

Atkinson Gives Up Office

Bristol Regret

Members of the Bristol branch deeply regret the decision of A. B. Atkinson to retire from office. He has been associated with the administration of the branch over a long period of years, during which he has held various offices.

He was a member of the branch before the last war, and in 1921 he was elected chairman, an office which he held for two years. Five years later he again became chairman and held the office for a number of years. For some time he was a delegate to the General Council, a position which he resigned for health reasons. For the last few years he has filled the office of vice-chairman, and his sane and long-sighted views have helped greatly when critical decisions have had to be made.

Mr. Atkinson has had a long and wide experience of the business, which he entered in its early days under that pioneer exhibitor the late Ralph Pringle. He is now interested in a circuit of kinemas in the Bristol area. All members hope that though no longer in office he will continue to give the branch the benefit of his advice and experience.

Coun. H. F. WREN said the difficulty was the constant changing of staff. It was going to be awkward to ask new employees to contribute to something from which they would never benefit.

The CHAIRMAN said they could ask those who had been with them for some time.

The Fox Settlement

Mr. SEAL said that as the result of a number of complaints, Twentieth Century-Fox had agreed to carry out the agreement, but he thought there was still a lot of dissatisfaction.

The CHAIRMAN said in the early stages he had proposed in the General Council that before the agreement was confirmed they should see how far it was going to be honoured, as it depended upon the good will of the two parties. He was given to understand that Twentieth Century-Fox was booking films on seven- and four-day runs.

The controversy started over the general booking policy of the company, and the circuits and others agreed that they were not prepared to book ordinary films for an extra day.

In his opinion, while the extra day might be a good policy for the earlier runs, it would be hard on the subsequent runs, and to him it seemed to be against the agreement.

J. L. MOTT said they could see holes in every paragraph of the agreement. He did not think it was taking them anywhere.

F. A. SEAL remarked that Fox was *to return* to the status quo, but as a matter of fact the firm had not done so.

Particulars of bookings of films on seven- and four-day runs for local kinemas were given, and it was decided to send the facts to head office.

V.D. Policy

The opinion of the meeting on the action of the General Council regarding films dealing with venereal disease was that the Council were [illegible] the CHAIRMAN commenting that shows of films of this nature should be controlled by the authorities.

Bonus to Workers

In connection with the application for a war bonus for employees on a flat rate, the meeting supported the attitude of the General Council that, granted, matter, that any extra bonus, it should be on a percentage basis.

160 CAMERAMEN INTO BATTLE

Pathe's Great Soviet Film

WITH Russian victories dominating the day's headlines, the appeal of "One Day of War," a feature-length picture, depicting the heroism and sacrifices of Soviet soldiers and civilians, is unquestionably great. It will be presented by Pathé for a run at the Regal, Marble Arch, starting tomorrow (Friday).

The plan of the picture is unique. The Soviet Government wanted to present to the Allies a true and comprehensive camera record of activity on the whole of their vast front, and it was suggested that a number of cameramen should film activity on the same day in various sectors. On the morning of June 13, 1942, a year after the Nazis invaded Russia, 160 picked cameramen were posted at front-line positions along the 1,000 mile front from the Baltic to the Black Sea.

The picture opens in Moscow, along the wide palatial streets of which a battalion moves up to the front. Then into action with the ski troops in the north and south with the Red Navy at Sebastopol. Near Lake Ilmen the Red Army reduces a German strong point. At Leningrad there are Generals in conference, snipers on the prowl and roof artillery observation posts; in the Baltic, one of the 160 cameramen in a submarine films an under-surface battle and its victorious conclusion. Another goes up in a fighter plane.

The Guerillas Fight

Near Orlov the guerillas go into action and wipe out a Hungarian detachment. Back to the air, Soviet fighters and bombers attack an enemy aerodrome. One of the 160 cameramen goes into battle in a tank. A Nazi gun is trained on the machine, and through its visor we see we are almost on top of the gunner; then the camera jerks as we roll over the gun and its operator.

Intensive Effort

Heroic defensive fighting in the Kalinin sector is followed by scenes of intensive war effort behind the lines. The cameras crank in the Urals, the Donetz and Baku, the Caucasian treasure store. There is a thrill in every scene as the stout-hearted Russians go about their tasks joyfully and with resolution while the fire of heavy artillery rumbles in the distance.

Shown are informal pictures of Stalin, Molotov and other leading lights of the Soviet Union—in fact, the 160 cameras miss nothing of graphic importance in Russia's vast theatre of war.

STORNOWAY LIQUIDATION

A notice in the Scottish Press asks all creditors of the Stornoway Playhouse, Ltd. (in members' voluntary liquidation), who have not lodged their claims with the liquidator, to do so before February 6, 1943, on which date all claims admitted will be paid in full. Thereafter the assets of the company will be distrubuted among the shareholders.

Proofs to P. W. Brown, C.A., liquidator, 90, Constitution Street, Leith, Edinburgh, 6.

SHARE MARKET

	This Week.	Movement.
African Theatres Ord.	61/-	+ -/3
Assoc. Brit. Pic. Corp. 5/- Ord.	14/9	—
,, 6% Pref.	23/9	+ -/3
,, 5% Debs.	£102½	— 30/-
A.P.P.H. Ord.	20/-	—
Brit. & Dom. Films £1	4/1½	+ -/7½
Brit. Lion Pref. Ord.	10/9	+ -/4½
Capital & Prov. News 5/-	4/-	—
Cine. Television Dfd. (6d.)	3/10½	+ 1/4½
Dufay-Chromex 5/- Ord.	2/6	+ -/3
Gaumont British Ord. 10/-	14/1½	+ -/4½
,, "A" Ord.	6/8½	+ -/-½
,, 5½% 1st Pref.	19/10½	— -/3
,, 4½% New Debs.	£99½	— 5/-
General The. Prefd.	12/6	—
,, 6½% 1st Mort. Deb.	£101½	+ 5/-
Mde. Tussaud 1/- Def.	1/9	+ -/3½
,, £1 Prefd. Ord.	13/9	+ 1/3
Moss Empires £1 Ord.	34/6	+ -/3
,, £1 Cum. Pref.	20/-	—
Odeon 5/- Ord.	14/9	—
,, 6% Pref.	20/6	—
,, 5% Debs.	£101½	— 5/-
P.C.T. 7½% Ptg. Pf. Ord.	26/4½	— -/3
,, Cum. "A" Pref. £1	26/10½	—
,, Cum. "B" Pref.	26/6	—
,, Const. 7% Pref.	26/-	—
Sound City (Films) 6% Pref.	6/3	—
Stoll Th. Corp.	10/-	—
Twentieth Cent. Ord.	1/3	—
Twentieth Cent. 6% Pref.	3/3½	—
Union Cinemas Ord.	2/6	—
,, 1st Pref.	19/9	— -/3
,, 2nd Pref.	18/7½	— -/7½

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Madam Tussauds attracted renewed interest following the publication of the report, the deferred rising 3½d. to 1s. 9d., and the preferred 1s. 3d. to 13s. 9d.

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Debit Balance Increased to £578,963

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After deducting directors' and trustees' fees, debenture and other interest, amortisation and depreciation, there is a loss of £28,469, compared with a loss of £45,773 for the previous year.

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A WESTERN UNION OF BRANCHES

Regrading Leads to New Development

A SCHEME was announced at Bristol C.E.A. meeting which may develop into the formation of district councils of the association. In the future the arrangement with the Devon and Cornwall and South Wales branches is to hold regular meetings of representatives every six months.

Considerable dissatisfaction had been expressed by the branch at the present method of the C.E.A. grading, it being contended that this had been in force so many years that it should be brought up to date and the wide classification of to-day be put on a more equitable basis.

In pursuance of this policy they gratefully acknowledged the help and interest of the neighbouring branches of South Wales and Devon and Cornwall. It was hoped that in future the three branches would arrange a meeting every six months

The following scheme for regrading was put forward by the branch: AA halls with a capacity of over £150 should pay a subscription of £21; A halls, capacity over £75, subscription £12 12s.; B halls, capacity over £25, subscription £8 8s.; C halls, capacity over £12 10s., subscription £6 6s.; D halls, capacity under £12 10s., subscription £3 3s. While this was supported solidly by the West, it was not accepted by the General Council.

During the year three more Sunday licences were granted, and the relations between the branch and the licensing authorities had continued to be good.

Regrading Policy

At the monthly meeting, which followed immediately after the annual meeting, GEORGE REES gave a report on the debate in the General Council on the branch's motion on the grading question. He first referred to the resolution sent by the branch committee on the subject to the L.F.P. Committee, following the meeting of representatives of the three West Country branches, which agreed that the present method of grading was obsolete.

When he saw the agenda at the General Council meeting he noticed that his motion on the matter came just before the report of the Legal, Finance and Parliamentary Committee, and he was asked if he would be willing to follow the report of the committee instead of moving his motion before it. He said he would do so provided that there was no political motive connected with the matter.

He stated the case as strongly as possible for a change in the system of grading, and he was supported by the chairmen of the other two West Country branches. They had a very strong case, but they were defeated by a narrow margin. The L.F.P. Committee had decided that the time was not opportune to interfere with the grading of kinemas.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Fuller's contention was that the Committee was perfectly satisfied with the revenue of the C.E.A. at the present moment, and therefore did not wish to bring forward any alteration of the grading. They did not contest the argument put forward by the West Country.

In reply to a question by a member, the CHAIRMAN said the majority of the members of the General Council had followed the L.F.P. Committee on the matter.

One New Appointment to Bristol Branch Executive

DISSATISFACTION AT FOX SETTLEMENT

BRISTOL branch has enjoyed a year of progress, and at the annual meeting both the Chairman and the Treasurer were able to give members very pleasant reports of the result of the activities of the branch during 1942, although the regrading proposals to which the branch has devoted much time were turned down by the General Council.

Regret was expressed at the decision of A. B. Atkinson not to seek re-election as vice-chairman, and the vacancy was filled by E. C. Rogers. Discussion at the business meeting centred chiefly round the 20th Century-Fox agreement and the threat of seven and four-day bookings.

Stocktaking

Coun. F. G. W. CHAMBERLAIN, who presided, in his review of the year said 1942, although an anxious year, had been a successful one. It was to the credit of the Association that the membership of the branch had increased from 136 to 141 in the fourth year of the war.

During the year the war bonus to employees had been increased to 25 per cent. to those earning up to £3, and 20 per cent. to those earning over £3. Their relations with the N.A.T.K.E. had remained good.

They had been compelled to close one day during the invasion exercises after the local authorities had obtained compulsory power.

During May the entertainment tax was raised to double the amount, but after negotiation with the Government it was so arranged that while collecting the tax they were able to charge a little extra for themselves. On the whole it had worked well.

The branch took part in the controversy over the booking policy of 20th Century-Fox, and did not agree with the terms of settlement; time would show whether they were right.

Thanks and Regrets

In thanking the officers for their support, Mr. Chamberlain expressed his regret at the decision of Mr. Atkinson to retire from the vice-chairmanship. They had worked together for a good many years, and they were all very grateful to him for the services he had rendered and the good advice he had always been ready to give. He hoped that it would not mean that Mr. Atkinson's interest in the C.E.A. would lessen in any way, and that he would remain with them for many years

In thanking Mr. Rees and Mr. Seal for their assistance on the General Council, he said he could assure members that it was through no fault of Mr. Rees that the General Council did not see eye to eye with them on the grading question. But what the West thought to-day the powers-that-be might think to-morrow.

Branch Exchequer

Presenting the financial statement, the treasurer, G. H. BLACKBURN, said they had had a record year in the way of subscriptions, which amounted to £291 and the year's work showed a balance of £103 0s. 9d.

The CHAIRMAN congratulated Mr. Blackburn on his very excellent report, and remarked that he hoped he would keep up the good work

Charity

The meeting voted the sum of £10 10s to the C.T.B.F., and another £10 10s to Glebelands.

As chairman and treasurer of the Area Committee of the C.T.B.F., G. H. BLACKBURN also presented the report of the Benevolent Fund, remarking that he hoped it would stimulate interest in the work of the fund on the part of those who were already working on its behalf, and also secure the assistance of the many others who did little or nothing in that direction.

The balance in hand was £31 6s. 7d., of which £25 was a donation from the Bristol Sunday Kinemas Fund. It was a matter of deep regret that the various authorities throughout the area dealing with the allocation of the large amounts which are being paid for the privilege of Sunday opening should decline to donate a fair proportion to the Trade's own charity.

At the moment, to his knowledge, two authorities only in that area were making any contribution. One was Bristol (£25), and the other the Dorset C.C. (£10).

Without accepting as a principle the payment of any amount from their takings to a charity fund, they could ask that a portion of it at any rate should be given to the Trade Benevolent Fund, as without the help of the Trade there would be nothing for anybody.

More Help Wanted

There had been a slight increase in the number of staff collecting boxes in operation, and a considerable increase in the amount of contributions received, but there were still over 100 theatres in the area without a collecting box. If every kinema in the territory had a box bringing in only one shilling a week the income from that source would be £350 a year instead of, as at present an income of £75

The committee thanked those managers who had given their valued help in that way. The success or otherwise of the scheme depended upon the enthusiasm of the manager, as a collecting box left on the top shelf of the office gathered nothing but dust.

The Stalwarts

The election of officers resulted in very little alteration. Coun. F. G. W. Chamberlain was re-elected chairman, and G. H. Blackburn treasurer.

The vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Atkinson from the vice-chairmanship was filled by the election of E. C. Rogers (Gloucester).

The Chairman and George Rees were re-elected delegates to the General Council, and Mr. ROGERS was elected as third delegate, an office in which he succeeds F. A. Seal. The members of the committee were re-elected *en bloc*.

Carbons

Dealing with the question of carbons, F. A. SEAL pointed out that many exhibitors were not taking their full ration, and if they did not do so it might prove very detrimental in the future. He also asked them to salvage the residue from carbons and to return the empty cartons.

A. B. ATKINSON asked if the cartons would be collected by the Film Transport people.

The CHAIRMAN replied in the affirmative.

BERT. RIEGO inquired if it would be possible for an exhibitor to have his ration increased.

The CHAIRMAN said that could be done. He thought it would certainly be wise to keep a fair supply in hand.

Employees' Day

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN expressed the hope that every member would get his employees to contribute to the Employees' Kinema Day, in February.

Atkinson Gives Up Office

Bristol Regret

Members of the Bristol branch deeply regret the decision of A. B. Atkinson to retire from office. He has been associated with the administration of the branch over a long period of years, during which he has held various offices.

He was a member of the branch before the war, and since last war, and in 1921 he was elected chairman, office which he held for two years. Five years later he again became chairman and held the office for a number of years. For some time he was a delegate to the General Council, a position which he resigned for health reasons. For the last few years he has filled the office of vice-chairman, and his sane and long-sighted views have helped greatly when critical decisions have had to be made.

Mr. Atkinson has had a long and wide experience of the business, which he entered in its early days under that pioneer exhibitor the late Ralph Pringle. He is now interested in a circuit of kinemas in the Bristol area. All members hope that though no longer in office he will continue to give the branch the benefit of his advice and experience.

Coun. H. F. WREN said the difficulty was the constant changing of staff. It was going to be awkward to ask new employees to contribute to something from which they would never benefit.

The CHAIRMAN said they could ask those who had been with them for some time.

The Fox Settlement

Mr. SEAL said that as the result of a number of complaints, Twentieth Century-Fox had agreed to carry out the agreement, but he thought there was still a lot of dissatisfaction.

The CHAIRMAN said in the early stages he had proposed in the General Council that before the agreement was confirmed they should see how far it was going to be honoured, as it depended upon the good will of the two parties. He was given to understand that Twentieth Century-Fox was booking films on seven- and four-day runs.

The controversy started over the general booking policy of the company, and the circuits and others agreed that they were not prepared to book ordinary films for an extra day.

In his opinion, while the extra day might be a good policy for the earlier runs, it would be hard on the subsequent runs, and to him it seemed to be against the agreement.

J. L. MOTT said they could see holes in every paragraph of the agreement. He did not think it was taken seriously anywhere.

F. A. SEAL remarked that Fox was *to return* to the status quo, but as a matter of fact the firm had not done so.

Particulars of bookings of seven- and four-day runs for local kinemas were given, and it was decided to send the facts to head office.

V.D. Policy

The opinion of the meeting on the action of the General Council regarding films dealing with venereal disease was that the Council were [illegible] films of this nature should be controlled by the authorities.

The CHAIRMAN commenting that [illegible]

Bonus to Workers

In connection with the application for a war bonus for employees on a flat rate, the meeting supported the attitude of the General Council, but noted, that any extra bonus, matter, should be on a percentage basis

160 CAMERAMEN INTO BATTLE

Pathé's Great Soviet Film

WITH Russian victories dominating the day's headlines, the appeal of "One Day of War," a feature-length picture depicting the heroism and sacrifices of Soviet soldiers and civilians, is unquestionably great. It will be presented by Pathé for a run at the Regal, Marble Arch, starting tomorrow (Friday).

The plan of the picture is unique. The Soviet Government wanted to present to the Allies a true and comprehensive camera record of activity on the whole of their vast front, and it was suggested that a number of cameramen should film activity on the same day in various sectors. On the morning of June 13, 1942, a year after the Nazis invaded Russia, 160 picked cameramen were posted at front-line positions along the 1,000 mile front from the Baltic to the Black Sea.

The picture opens in Moscow, along the wide palatial streets of which a battalion moves up to the front. Then into action with the ski troops in the north and south with the Red Navy at Sebastopol. Near Lake Ilmen the Red Army reduces a German strong point. At Leningrad there are Generals in conference, snipers on the prowl and roof artillery observation posts; in the Baltic, one of the 160 cameramen in a submarine films an under-surface battle and its victorious conclusion. Another goes up in a fighter plane.

The Guerillas Fight

Near Orlov the guerillas go into action and wipe out a Hungarian detachment. Back to the air, Soviet fighters and bombers attack an enemy aerodrome. One of the 160 cameramen goes into battle in a tank. A Nazi gun is trained on the machine, and through its visor we see we are almost on top of the gunner; then the camera jerks as we roll over the gun and its operator.

Intensive Effort

Heroic defensive fighting in the Kalinin sector is followed by scenes of intensive war effort behind the lines. The cameras crank in the Urals, the Donetz and Baku, the Caucasian treasure store. There is a thrill in every scene as the stout-hearted Russians go about their tasks joyfully and with resolution while the fire of heavy artillery rumbles in the distance.

Shown are informal pictures of Stalin, Molotov and other leading lights of the Soviet Union—in fact, the 160 cameras miss nothing of graphic importance in Russia's great theatre of war.

STORNOWAY LIQUIDATION

A notice in the Scottish Press asks all creditors of the Stornoway Playhouse, Ltd. (in members' voluntary liquidation), who have not lodged their claims with the liquidator, to do so before February 6, 1943, on which date all claims admitted will be paid in full. Thereafter the assets of the company will be distrubuted among the shareholders.

Proofs to J. W. Brown, C.A., liquidator, 50, Constitution Street, Leith, Edinburgh, 6.

SHARE MARKET

	This Week.	Movement.
African Theatres Ord. ..	61/-	+ -/3
Assoc. Brit. Pic. Corp. 5/- Ord.	14/9	—
,, 6% Pref.	23/9	+ -/3
,, 5% Debs.	£102½	— 30/-
A.P.P.H. Ord.	20/-	—
Brit. & Dom. Films £1 ..	4/1½	+ -/7½
Brit. Lion Pref. Ord. ..	10/9	+ -/4½
Capital & Prov. News 5/-	4/-	—
Cine. Television Dfd. (6d.)	3/10½	+ 1/4½
Dufay-Chromex 5/- Ord.	2/6	+ -/3
Gaumont British Ord. 10/-	14/1½	+ -/4½
,, "A" Ord.	6/8½	+ -/-½
,, 5½% 1st Pref. ..	19/10½	— -/3
,, 4½% New Debs. ..	£99½	— 5/-
General The. Prefd. ..	12/6	—
,, 6½% 1st Mort. Deb.	£101½	+ 5/-
Mdc. Tussaud 1/- Def. ..	1/9	+ -/3½
,, £1 Prefd. Ord. ..	13/9	+ 1/3
Moss Empires £1 Ord. ..	34/6	+ -/3
,, £1 Cum. Pref. ..	20/-	—
Odeon 5/- Ord.	14/9	—
,, 6% Pref.	20/6	—
,, 5% Debs.	£101½	— 5/-
P.C.T. 7½% Ptg. Pf. Ord.	26/4½	— -/3
,, Cum. "A" Pref. £1	26/10½	—
,, Cum. "B" Pref. ..	26/6	—
,, Const. 7% Pref. ..	26/-	—
Sound City (Films) 6% Pref.	6/3	—
Stoll Th. Corp.	10/-	—
Twentieth Cent. Ord. ..	1/3	—
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New Films at a Glance

Title and Renter.	R.T. and Certificate.	Stars.	Remarks.	Box-Office Angle.
†Arabian Nights ... ... (G.F.D.-Universal)—American.	85 min. (A)	Jon Hall, ... Maria Montez, Sabu.	... Dazzlingly mounted Eastern fantasy. Story sketchy, but comedy interludes bright, dancing girls glamorous, staging sumptuous and Technicolor superb.	Capital star and title novelty attraction for the masses. Safe for youngsters.
Arms and the Girl ... (A.B.F.D.)—American.	69 min. (U)	Robert Young, Barbara Stanwyck, Hardie Allbright.	... Romantic comedy drama, originally reviewed in the Kine. October 24, 1935.	Acceptable revival for the masses, family and youngsters.
Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant (M-G-M)—American.	88 min. (A)	Lionel Barrymore, Susan Peters, Van Johnson.	... Medico comedy melodrama, the latest of the Dr. Gillespie series. Story somewhat protracted, but acting good, and feminine appeal strong	Good title and star programmer for the masses. Nothing to harm youngsters.
Ice Capades Revue ... (B. Lion-Republic)—American.	80 min. (U)	Ellen Drew, Richard Denning, Harold Huber.	... Snappy, picturesque and tuneful ice-rink revue. Story bright and actionful, cast attractive and ensembles dazzling.	Excellent general booking. Great for the family.
Last Command, The ... (Pathe)—American.	65 min. (A)	Alan Baxter, Gertrude Michael, Ernest Dorian.	... Fifth Column romantic melodrama with a lonely Pacific Island setting. Story a little sketchy, but characterisation good and thrills spectacular.	Good average programmer. Hardly suitable for youngsters.
Manila Calling ... ... (20th Century-Fox)—American.	80 min. (A)	Lloyd Nolan, Carole Landis, Cornel Wilde.	... Romantic war melodrama with a Philippines background. Story not too convincing, but acting vigorous.	Fair average war fiction. Not for youngsters.
*Nine Men ... ... (United Artists)—British.	67 min. (A)	Jack Lambert, Gordon Jackson, Grant Sutherland.	... Epic melodrama of British courage and endurance in the Libyan desert. Story realistic, acting magnificent and atmosphere impeccable.	Outstanding general booking. Hardly suitable for the very young.
*Proud Valley, The ... (A.B.F.D.)—British.	77 min. (A)	Paul Robeson, Simon Lack, Rachael Thomas.	... Human but spectacular story of a Welsh coal pit, superb acting, vivid thrills and fine choral background.	Reissue and timely general booking. Nothing to harm juveniles.
Trans-Atlantic Merry-go-Round. (A.B.F.D.)—American.	91 min. (A)	Jack Benny, ... Nancy Carroll, Sydney Howard.	... Spectacular comedy crime musicale with a luxury liner background, originally reviewed in the Kine., November 29, 1934.	Lively reissue for the masses. Should not harm youngsters.

* A British Picture. † In Colour.

REVIEWS FOR SHOWMEN

Arabian Nights

General F.D.-Universal. American (A). In Technicolor. Directed by John Rawlins. Featuring Jon Hall, Maria Montez and Sabu. 7,650 feet. Release not fixed.

DAZZLING thick-ear Eastern fantasy, photographed in glorious Technicolor, telling of romance and treachery in the early and opulent Orient. The tale is not exactly crystal clear, and many of the principal and supporting characters and all the dialogue have a strong, not to say incongruous, American flavour, but the ladies of the harem are lovely to look at, the roughstuff is hearty, the settings are sumptuous and the many slapstick interludes are good knockabout. Its robust "it's all in fun" approach and glamorous stagecraft, to say nothing of its irresistible title values, make it good box-office pantomime. Capital star and title novelty attraction.

Story. — Kamar-al-Shaman, unscrupulous half-brother of Haroun-al-Raschid, Caliph of Bagdad, covets a beautiful but ambitious dancing girl Sherazade. He determines to usurp Haroun, and with the help of Nadan, Haroun's disloyal vizier, forces Haroun to flee the city. Ali-Ben-Ali, a young acrobat appearing in a circus with Sherazade, recognises Haroun and befriends him.

Haroun and Sherazade fall in love, but Haroun is recaptured by Nadan's men. The treacherous Nadan then plots to get rid of Kamar, his partner in crime, and to save Haroun's life Sherazade agrees to poison Kamar during a feast. Meanwhile, Haroun escapes and, true to tradition, arrives on the scene in time to liquidate both Nadan and Kamar and claim the hand of Sherazade.

Acting.—Maria Montez is a beautiful, if somewhat dumb, Sherazade, and Jon Hall makes a fearless all-American Arab—or is it Persian?—as Haroun. Sabu is a trifle more convincing as Ali-Ben-Ali, but the rest of the American-born supporting players quickly revert to type. Happily, character conviction is of secondary importance.

Points of Appeal.—Familiar romance, arty slapstick, favourite cast, lavish staging, bevies of beauty, Technicolor photography and box-office title.

Production.—We do not know from which, if any, of the original Arabian Nights tales this picture is adapted, but we are certain the characters belong to Hollywood rather than the period and environment indicated by the title. There are also one or two grim and rather grisly illustrations to treachery, but for the most part the ravishing harem girls and robust slapstick interludes—Billy Gilbert is in great form—hold sway.

Its laughs and glamour, cunningly amplified by exquisite Technicolor, and, above all, its irresistible title mark it down as attractive war time divertissement. With all its glaring incongruities, it should intrigue the popular audience.

Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant

M-G-M. American (A). Directed by Willis Goldbeck. Featuring Lionel Barrymore, Susan Peters and Van Johnson. 7,897 feet. Release April 5, 1943.

MEDICO comedy melodrama, the latest of the Dr. Gillespie series and the second without Dr. Kildare, describing how an irascible yet kindly hospital doctor restores the happiness of a pretty but distracted patient and, at the same time, puts three enthusiastic, if impetuous, students through their paces. Lionel Barrymore contributes an excellent portrayal in the lead, the atmosphere is convincing and the dialogue is clever, but human, let alone general, interest is somewhat erratic. A tendency to put padding before plot is our diagnosis. Nevertheless, it is acceptable series fare. Good title and star programmer for the masses.

Story.—Mrs. Young, new bride of Howard Allwinn, friend of Dr. Gillespie, a shrewd and understanding senior hospital doctor, is suddenly stricken with amnesia. Dr. Gillespie is consulted and he puts Randall Adams, a new student, on the case. Dennis Lindsay, an Australian student, and Lee Wong How, a Chinese, also come under Dr. Gillespie's wing. Eventually Dr. Gillespie discovers that Mrs. Young is feigning amnesia to avoid telling her husband that she has been married before and can no longer bear children. He gains her confidence and leads her out of her trouble. Meanwhile, Lindsay and How, as well as Adams, have difficulty with their jobs, but Dr. Gillespie follows up his good work by giving them sound advice and kindly encouragement.

Acting.—Lionel Barrymore is, as usual, excellent as Dr. Gillespie, Susan Peters convinces and gains a considerable amount of sympathy as the unhappy Mrs. Young, and Van Johnson, Richard Quine and Keye Luke are adequate as the new students.

Production.—The story not only takes a long time to get going and even longer to end, but introduces an incredible idiom, a queer mixture of bush and Cockney slang, with the new Australian character. Its [illegible] crastinations and verbal eccentricities somewhat rudely emphasise its [illegible] length, but fortunately the clever acting [illegible] Lionel Barrymore and, in a smaller measure, that of Susan Peters mitigates many of its [illegible]. It may not be well balanced, but it only does not let down its popular series. [illegible] from it! good characterisation, realistic atmosphere and strong feminine angle and big title and [illegible] values.

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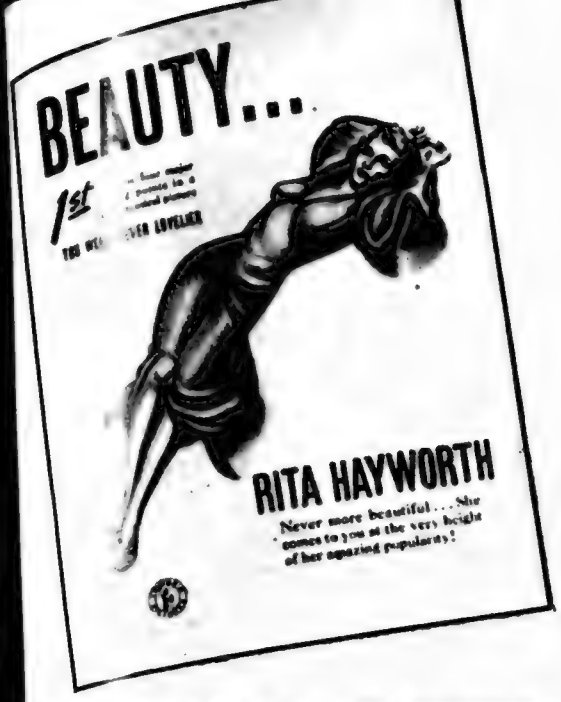


RHYTHM

2nd ...of the four major selling points in a great musical picture

YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER

Fred ASTAIRE & Rita HAYWORTH

The screen's most exciting dancing-romancing team...even more thrilling together than in 'You'll Never Get Rich'!

COLUMBIA PICTURES

MUSIC...

3rd

...of the four majo
selling points in
great musical pictur

YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIE

JEROME KERN'S

greatest score since "Show Boat"
with ear-tingling tunes everyon
will soon be humming and whistlin

COLUMBIA PICTURES

A GREAT BAND

4th ...of the major selling points in a great musical picture

YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER

XAVIER CUGAT and His Orchestra

...in their grandest manner... with their extraordinary song hit, "CHIU, CHIU"!

COLUMBIA PICTURES

BEAUTY...
1st of the four great talking pictures in a great musical picture
YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER
RITA HAYWORTH
Never more beautiful... She comes to you at the very height of her amazing popularity!
RHYTHM
2nd of the four great talking pictures in a great musical picture
YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER
Fred ASTAIRE
Rita HAYWORTH
The screen's most exciting dancing romancing team... even more thrilling together than in "You'll Never Get Rich"!
MUSIC...
3rd of the four great talking pictures in a great musical picture
YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER
JEROME KERN'S
A GREAT
4th
XAVIER CUGAT
Orchestra

Fred *Rita*

ASTAIRE · HAYWORTH in

You Were Never Lovelier

with **ADOLPHE MENJOU**

XAVIER CUGAT

and His Orchestra

Music by JEROME KERN

TRADE SHOW
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2
STUDIO ONE
10:45 A.M.

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Continued from page 22

Nine Men

United Artists. British (A). Directed by Harry Watt. Featuring Jack Lambert, Richard Webb, Grant Sutherland. 6,040 *feet. Release not fixed.*

EPIC melodrama of British courage, tenacity and endurance under gruelling war conditions in the sun-scorched, wind-swept Libyan desert. The story is magnificently acted, intelligently directed and realistically staged. Its grim yet dignified workmanship and stark realism makes it a first-class dramatic documentary for all types of audiences. We can go further, it comes in the "must be seen" class. Outstanding general booking.

Story.—Sergeant Watson, veteran of the present war, listening to the grouses of trainees, cuts in with a personal account of a desert scrap. He, a second lieutenant and seven men have their lorry put out of action by enemy planes. The officer is mortally wounded, but before he dies he orders them to fight to the last.

There is another death from wounds, but the rest share the sergeant's determination to fight to the bitter end. The Italians promptly attack, but are forced to retire. They come again, but in the meantime Watson sends one man for help and reorganises the remnants. In the final hand-to-hand conflict the remaining six hold on long enough for reinforcements to arrive. The tale puts new heart into the browned-off rookies.

Acting.—Jack Lambert gives a grand performance as Sergeant Watson, and Gordon Jackson, Frederick Piper, Grant Sutherland, Bill Blewett, Eric Micklewood, John Varley and Jack Horsman share the supporting honours as the equally indomitable privates.

Production.—The picture accomplishes many tasks—it is at one and the same time a pep talk for fed-up troops and civilians, an exciting illustration of the science and practice of modern desert warfare and a worthy tribute to the men who have been and are still doing the fighting. Exceedingly good characterisation, imaginative direction, realistic atmosphere and technical presentation enable its many informative, thrilling and glorious facets to blend into outstanding dramatic documentary. We believe that women, as well as men, will be able to take it. From a box-office viewpoint its only serious shortcoming is lack of star values.

Points of Appeal.—Exciting and inspiring story, fine characterisation, excellent atmosphere, intelligent and showmanlike direction, masterly interpretation of the indomitable "old contemptibles" spirit, provocative title, stark realism and obvious exploitation values.

Ice Capades Revue

British Lion - Republic. American (U). Directed by Bernard Vorhaus. Featuring Ellen Drew, Richard Denning and Harold Huber. 7,163 *feet. Release not fixed.*

SNAPPY, picturesque and tuneful ice-rink revue turning on unscrupulous rivalry in the show business. The story is bright and actionful, and the attractive and talented stellar and supporting players more than match its lively and colourful versatility. Moreover, its swift alternation of genial villainy, romance and comedy is punctuated with breathtaking ensembles and acrobatics. Grand light entertainment, just the stuff to give the troops. Excellent general booking.

Story.—Ann Porter, an attractive country girl, inherits a big-town ice-rink from a relative, but when she goes with her scatter-brained Aunt Nellie to collect she discovers that he is heavily involved. Duke Baldwin, an unscrupulous gangster, plots to force Ann to sell at a knockout price and employs Jeff Stewart, an engaging young man, as his go-between. Jeff gets cracking, but changes camp after meeting Ann.

Meanwhile, Aunt Nellie and Theophilus Twitchell, a crazy astrologer, become friends. The young stars of the rink want Ann to feature them in a show, and Aunt Nellie persuades Twitchell to back the venture. They start rehearsals, but just as things get going Twitchell's means prove to be nothing more than an astral hope that he will win a big radio contest. In the end Jeff outwits Baldwin, the show goes on and true love prevails.

Acting.—Ellen Drew and Richard Denning are an attractive pair as Ann and Jeff, Harold Huber convinces and amuses as the unscrupulous Baldwin, Vera Vague and Jerry Colonna make an effective comedy team as Aunt Nellie and Twitchell. Megan Taylor and other international skating stars score during the ice-rink sequences.

Production.—The story is better than average for screen revue, and the substantial and amusing background of gangster and romantic intrigue gives shrewd and clever contrast to the many delightful, exhilarating and tuneful ensembles. It will have no difficulty in entertaining the masses, the family and, more particularly, the troops.

Points of Appeal.—Bright, ingenious and fast-moving story, popular romance, crisp comedy, brilliant ice rink ensembles, title and star values.

The Last Command

Pathé. American (A). Directed by Arthur Ripley. Featuring Alan Baxter, Gertrude Michael and Ernest Dorian. 5,846 *feet. Release not fixed.*

FIFTH Column romantic melodrama, with a lonely Pacific Island setting, telling how a rehabilitated alcoholic and an attractive cabaret entertainer bring about the destruction of a secret Japanese wireless station and its stealthy operators. The story attempts to colour its serial-like action with psychological asides, but its topical roughstuff is far more effective than its essays in character reading. Good average programmer.

Story. — David Bowman, an alcoholic astronomer living on a lonely island in the Pacific, allows his life to be dominated by Matsura, a Japanese agent. Matsura and his Eurasian wife, Loti, learn of the position of an American destroyer through the careless talk of an ensign. The island contains a secret wireless station and Jap bombers are informed. The destroyer is sunk.

Later, Toni Chase, an American entertainer, arrives on the island and quickly learns of Matsura's undercover activities. At first she suspects Bowman of collaboration, but he, suddenly brought to his senses by the grim spectacle of the cruel murder of a native boy, soon dispels her fears. The two then work together and, at the cost of their lives, enable the U.S. Navy to blow the island and its unscrupulous inhabitants to smithereens.

Acting.—Alan Baxter contributes a convincing study as the regenerated Bowman, Gertrude Michael meets all emotional demands as Toni, and Ernest Dorian, Corinna Mura, Billy Boya and Beal Wong look their parts as Japanese agents.

Production.—The picture's many spectacular skirmishes between the Americans and the Japs, colourful staging and popular romantic angle will get it over in the majority of halls. Incidentally, the ending is an unhappy one, yet profoundly patriotic, and its title and star values are far from inconsiderable.

Points of Appeal.—Topical and actionful tale, thrilling spectacle, slight human angle, good title and popular stars.

Manila Calling

Twentieth Century - Fox. American (A). Directed by Herbert I. Leeds. Featuring Lloyd Nolan, Carole Landis and Cornel Wilde. 7,257 *feet. Release not fixed.*

ROMANTIC war melodrama with a Philippines background telling of a determined stand by a courageous, if motley, band of American guerillas. The tale vigorously illustrates the feelings of the Americans towards the Japs, but its song of hate gets slightly out of key when a feminine interest is introduced. The sacrifice of realism for convention transfers it from the epic to the hokum category. Fair average Pacific war fiction.

Story.—A small band of radio technicians, headed by Jeff Bailey, are forced to hide in a jungle when the Japs invade the Philippines. Lucky Matthews, Jeff's second in command, is all for putting up a fight and eventually they capture a Japanese stronghold. They are later joined by Wayne Ralston, a planter, and Edna Fraser, a cabaret girl. Lucky and Jeff want to repair the wireless and counter the Japanese radio propaganda, but there are some dissenters. Ralston is one and he is killed. Finally, two manage to escape in a reconditioned Japanese plane, but the rest, and they include Lucky and Edna, die fighting.

Acting.—Lloyd Nolan, Cornel Wilde, James Gleason, Martin Kosleck, Ralph Byrd, Lester Matthews and Harold Huber do their best to convince in the leading male rôles, but are not too successful. Neither do Carole Landis's do-or-die histrionics ring completely true.

Production.—The picture sets out to cash in on the war in the Philippines, but it is too fictional and too late—it has already been beaten to the draw by at least one spectacular Pacific front epic—to compete only anything like favourable terms with the real thing. Anyway, the screen has very nearly had its fill of authentic war films. Title and star values are unquestionably its strongest offer.

Points of Appeal.—Vigorous characterisation, colourful backgrounds, grim thrills and attractive title.

REISSUES

Arms and the Girl

A.B.F.D. American (U). Directed by Sidney Lanfield. Featuring Robert Young, Barbara Stanwyck and Hardie Allbright. 6,291 *feet. Release not fixed.*

ROMANTIC comedy drama, originally Trade shown by United Artists and reviewed in the KINE. of October 24, 1935, telling how a general's self-willed but attractive daughter is prevented from running off with an intellectual "Red" by an irresponsible, good-looking soldier. Its politics are, of course, no longer popular, but happily comedy and inconsequential romance are put well before controversial matter. Fashioned in the exuberant, light-hearted "It Happened One Night" tradition, it dates comparatively little and should have no difficulty in entertaining family and industrial audiences.

Transatlantic Merry-Go-Round

A.B.F.D. American (A). Directed by Ben Stoloff. Featuring Jack Benny, Nancy Carroll and Sydney Howard. 8,234 *feet. Release not fixed.*

SPECTACULAR comedy crime musicale with a luxury liner background, originally Trade shown by United Artists and reviewed in the KINE. of November 29, 1934. A conventional "who-dunnit" mystery story is employed as a platform for popular music, song and ensemble, and the many colourful facets pattern into a clear-cut whole. At first the women's somewhat dated costumes rob the picture of pristine gilt, but the tarnish is removed when the bright and exciting entertainment gets under way. All told, a bright and lively revival, one with considerable mass and industrial appeal.

The Proud Valley

A.B.F.D. British (A). Directed by Pen Tennyson. Featuring Paul Robeson, Simon Lack and Rachael Thomas. 6,930 *feet. Release not fixed.*

WERE there nothing in this film but the glorious voice of Paul Robeson it would still be worth while, but there is an intensely human story of the coal pits, with poor recompense for hard work in normal times and only the dole when things are difficult. The coal mine disaster is magnificently staged, and the choral background with the colliery male choir and Paul Robeson is a feast of music and an exposition of talent. Its revival at this time when war demands every ounce of fuel is extremely topical. First reviewed in the KINE., January 4, 1940.

she has such "LUCKY LEGS"

JINX FALKENBURG

LESLIE BROOKS · KAY HARRIS · RUSSELL HAYDEN

ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAY BY STANLEY RUBIN AND JACK HARTFIELD

Directed by CHARLES BARTON Produced by WALLACE MacDONALD

TRADE SHOW
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4
STUDIO ONE
10:45 A.M

WHEN NAZIS MEET ELLERY QUEEN... THEY MEET THEIR WATERLOO!

WILLIAM GARGAN as ELLERY QUEEN
and
MARGARET LINDSAY as NIKKI PORTER

in THE LIDO MYSTERY

with

CHARLEY GRAPEWIN
GALE SONDERGAARD • GILBERT ROLAND
SIG RUMAN • JAMES BURKE

Screen play by ERIC TAYLOR • Story by ELLERY QUEEN

Directed by JAMES HOGAN • A COLUMBIA PICTURE

TRADE SHOW
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3
STUDIO ONE
10:45 A.M.

CROOKS SEE ALL THE STARS IN HOLLYWOOD—
WHEN BLACKIE CONNECTS
WITH A RIGHT TO
THE JAW!

BLACKIE goes HOLLYWOOD

with

CHESTER MORRIS

COLUMBIA PICTURES

WILLIAM WRIGHT · CONSTANCE WORTH · GEORGE E. STONE

Original Screen Play by PAUL YAWITZ

Produced by WALLACE MacDONALD · Directed by MICHAEL [illegible]

TRADE SHOW
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5
STUDIO ONE
10·45 A.M.

The screen's Two Top horrific stars turn gay to slay their victims with laughs!

BORIS KARLOFF AND PETER LORRE

THE BOOGIE MAN WILL GET YOU

TRADE SHOW
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9
STUDIO ONE
10·45 A·M·

...LO VDIE HAS DAGWOOD
...N & PLINTS... AND THE
...IATION IN STITCHES!

CRACKING DOWN ON THE SECRET EARS OF THE ENEMY!

Columbia PRESENTS

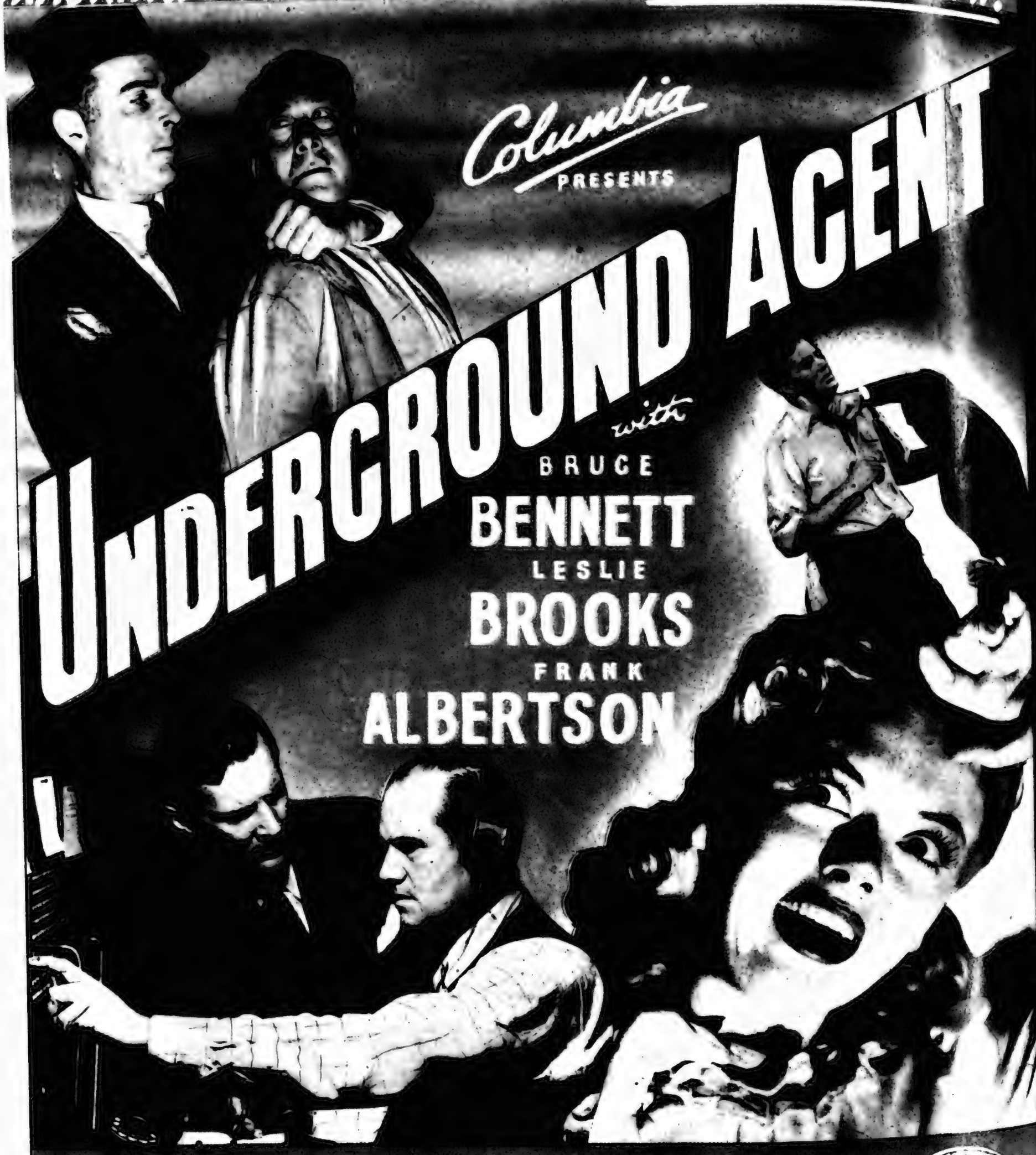
UNDERCROUND AGENT

with

BRUCE BENNETT

LESLIE BROOKS

FRANK ALBERTSON



Story and Screen Play by J. Robert Bren and Gladys Atwater

Produced by SAM WHITE

Directed by MICHAEL GORDON

TRADE SHOW
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11
STUDIO ONE
10·45 A.M.

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

COLUMBIA PICTURES

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Studio Wages Agreement

PRODUCERS APPROVE DRAFT

AT the meeting held on Thursday last, the British Film Producers' Association considered and approved the final draft of the agreement they have been negotiating with the A.C.T. This decision has been conveyed to G. H. Elvin.

A report was also made by G. W. Parish, chairman of the Labour Sub-committee, on recent negotiations carried out with the N.A.T.K.E. and the A.C.T. on their application for an increase in the cost-of-living bonus. A further meeting with the Unions is being held to-day (Thursday) to consider the matter further.

The meeting also decided to give its fullest support to the "Wings of Victory" Week initiated by the Lord Mayor of London. Two of its members, G. W. Parish and Spencer N. Reis, are already on J. Arthur Rank's committee helping in this effort.

A third discussion took place on the vacancy as president created by the death of C. M. Woolf, and it was decided that further consideration of this should be postponed till a future meeting. The date of the next meeting was fixed for February 4, 1943.

A STATELY HOME REPRODUCED

"The Demi-Paradise"

Shooting on the Two Cities-Anatole de Grunwald production, "The Demi-Paradise," starring Laurence Olivier with Penelope Dudley Ward, which Anthony Asquith is directing for G.F.D. release, veered last week between the austerity of the Soviet delegate's office in London, where Ivan (Olivier) has to report to his Government, to the beauty of an English country home, a splendid setting contrived, notwithstanding the shortage of material and labour, by art directors Paul Sheriff and Carmen Dillon and unit manager George Pollock.

The scene, occupying the whole of vast stage 5, is laid at the country home of the shipping magnate, Felix Aylmer. Smooth, close turf is beneath the feet; on the left a fine old eighteenth-century mansion, with broad terrace and low, wide steps leading to the lawns. Looking ahead, one is faced with a lake from which another wide terrace leads through wrought-iron gates to a vista of park beyond. Truly a fitting background to history, scenes from which come to life later.

Bernard Knowles has achieved some truly artistic lighting effects here showing the moon piercing a bank of clouds and casting up a vivid reflection on the ripples of the water.

In one of these sequences Miss Beatrice Harrison, the famous 'cellist, will be seen. She will be remembered as the originator of the famous nightingale broadcasts, but in this setting the lovely song of the nightingale is heard, whilst overhead the sky is lit with searchlights and bursting shells.

James Mason, signed by Hellman to star in THEY MET IN THE DARK

REALISM AT THE "BUSH"

Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat have been occupied with factory scenes in the women war workers' film "Millions Like Us" at Shepherds Bush. This week a reproduction of the aircraft factory where location work was done will be built under the guidance of a factory official by L. Broadhouse, of the art department.

Factory scenes already covered show sections of the vast air raid shelters beneath the workshops, and dramatic shots of the girl workers hurrying down from the factory floor during a raid at night, and Eric Portman as the factory foreman guiding the girls to shelter and giving Anne Crawford, the rich munition worker, a "fireman's lift" when she considers it bad form to hurry even if bombs are dropping. Ten Government trainees from a London centre have been granted leave to appear with Patricia Roc and other girls in the cast in the factory sequence of the film.

FILM UNIT FOR SOUTH AFRICA

"Man of Two Worlds"

A Two Cities reconnaissance unit has left for Africa in connection with the production of a feature film to be called "Man of Two Worlds" (originally titled "The White Ants"), which will be directed by Thorold Dickinson and produced by John Sutro.

The script is based on a story by Miss Arnot Robertson, the author of "Four Frightened People," and will be written by Joyce Cary in conjunction with Thorold Dickinson.

Mr. Cary is the author of "The African Witch" and other novels of distinction; he was formerly in the Colonial Service in Africa.

Jimmy Hodgson, cameraman for "March of Time," has just returned after nine months in Africa, where he has shot some 28,000 ft. of film during a 38,000-mile journey.

HELLMAN STARTS GREAT NEW YEAR SCHEDULE

"They Met in the Dark"

THE first Marcel Hellman production of the year goes on the floor at Denham while his current release "Secret Mission" is doing exceptional business everywhere. Always ready with a follow-up subject, Hellman is already well advanced in preparations for the filming of "The Barbarian," which he proposes to make, if possible, in Technicolor. Other important plans are also afoot.

Off to a flying start this week goes the new Marcel Hellman production, "They Met in the Dark," with a really good new box-office team—James Mason and Joyce Howard—in the stellar rôles, at the head of a carefully chosen cast including Edward Rigby, Karel Stepanek, David Farrar and Ronald Ward. Other important star signings and prominent cast assignments will follow.

Hellman's current release, "Secret Mission," is setting the box-office pace for "They Met in the Dark," another grand romantic comedy thriller, which this producer knows so well how to handle, and which has been built to a definite pattern of popular entertainment.

Exciting Adventure Story

With "They Met in the Dark," his first New Year production, he has an ideal subject, an exciting adventure narrative, teeming with thrills, breathtaking suspense, unusual dramatic and romantic twists, packed with plenty of comedy, and moving along at a high temperature of action, providing in every changing mood nothing but entertainment all the way. Karel Lamac is in charge of direction, with Basil Sidney as director of dialogue.

Tom White Heads Unit

"They Met in the Dark" is being made by a fine unit headed by Tom White, chief production manager for Independent Producers, Ltd., Otto Heller, Gus Drise and Robert Day on cameras, Cecil Thornton, David Goghan and John Hales on sound, Percy Hermes and Bruce Gordon assistant directors, Vera Pavey continuity, Gerry Fletcher and H. Holley make-up, John Hamon and Norma Blackburn hairdressers, George Doble electrical, and Russell Westwood in charge of still photography. Unit manager under Tom White is Mickey Delamar, and Raymond Anzarut is producer's assistant, with Queenie Eisner as secretary. Marcel Hellman has appointed Ben Frankel as composer and musical director.

"Barbarian" in Technicolor

To follow his current production, Marcel Hellman has already lined up "The Barbarian" to follow "They Met in the Dark," and work is now in progress on the probable cast and production assignments.

"The Barbarian" is a glowing finely woven screen tapestry of one of the most colourful periods in British history, and will be made in Technicolor if possible. It is the first screen document of the great border wars between Scotland and England, and the ultimate peace which led to the lasting friendship of the peoples with the merging of the national emblems.

Joyce Howard stars with James Mason in Hellman's THEY MET IN THE DARK

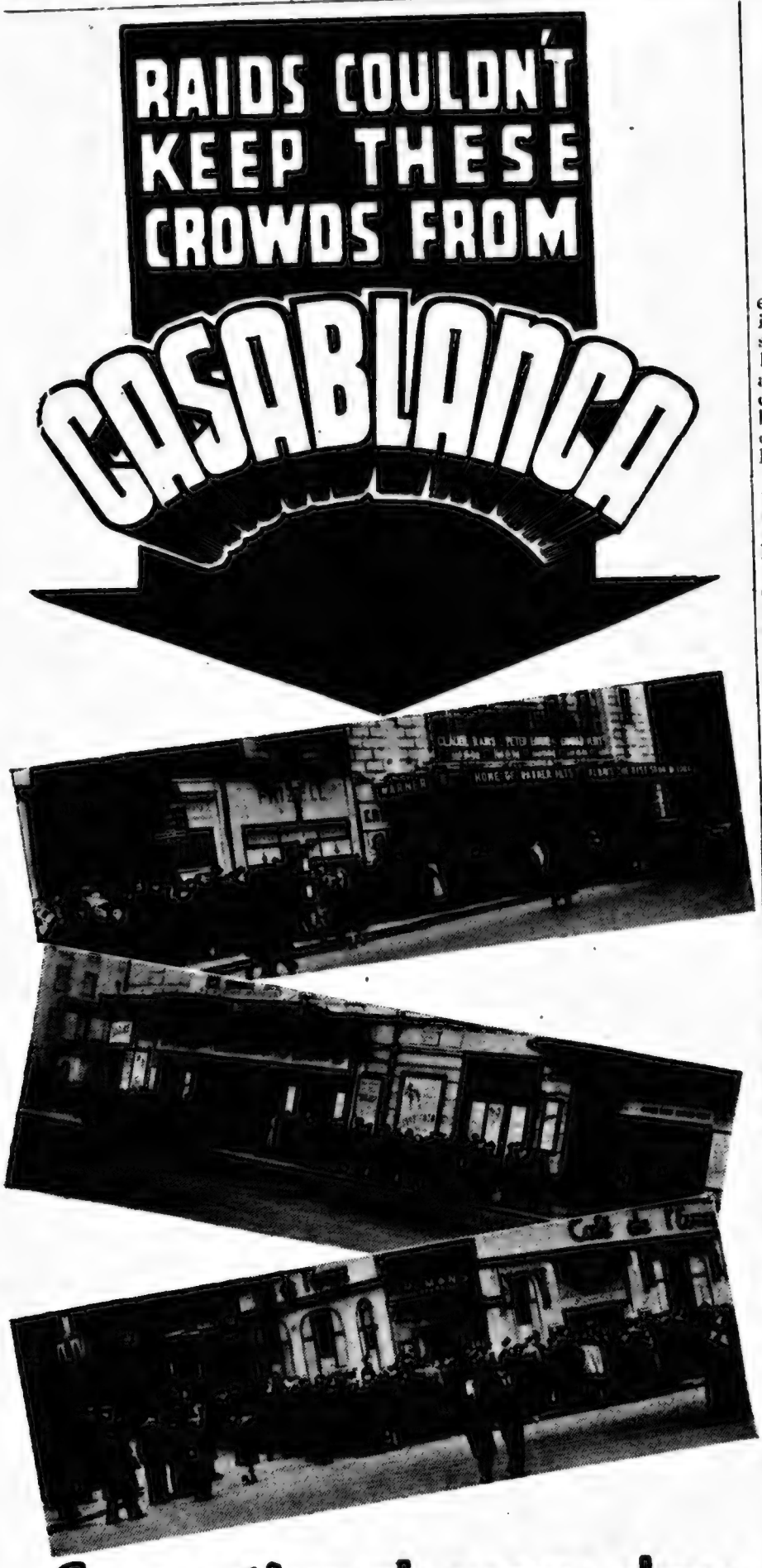
Epic Chapter of History

"The Barbarian" covers a vast canvas, depicting an epic chapter of history, painted with brilliant scenes, against the wild country and ancient castles. Grand drama, charming romance, duelling knights, the clash of old-time battle between the fearless clansmen from the North and the English soldiery, and the hundred and one thrills of a spacious and resplendent era are the highlights of this thrill-packed saga, and adventure rides high through the vivid and exciting pageant of a day when knights were bold, and lesser men feared no man.

"The Barbarian" was written by Adela Rogers St. John and Richard Fisher, who also wrote the scenario, the screenplay by John Balderston.

George Formby for the Orkneys

George Formby, star of stage and screen, will shortly pay his second visit to the Orkneys under the banner of E.N.S.A. Beryl (Mrs. Formby) will go with him. Later in the year he will start E.N.S.A. entertainments in Canada.



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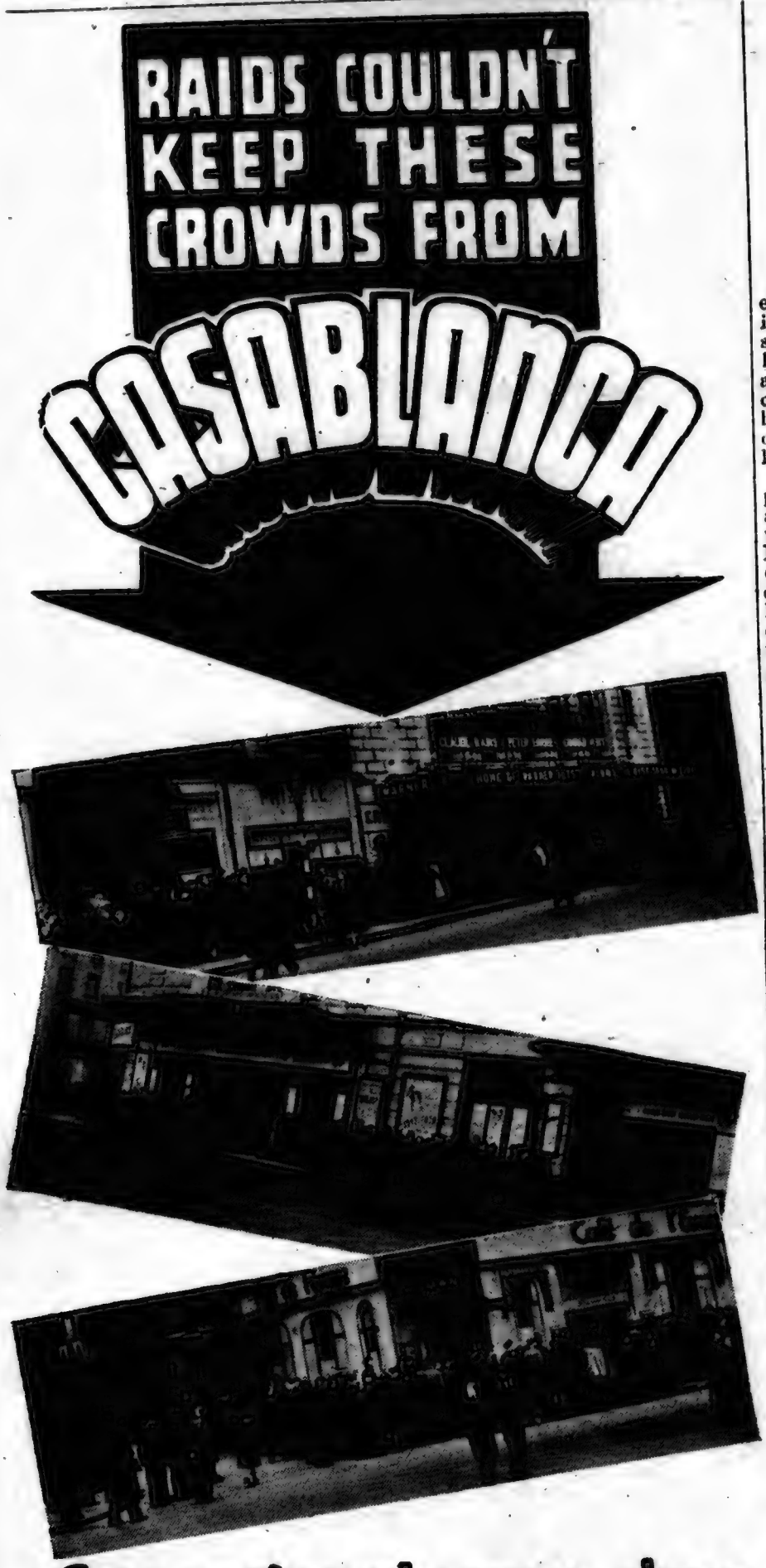

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SPEAKMAN ANTICIPATES U.S. PRODUCT SHORTAGE

Government and Service Chiefs' Tribute to Ulster C.E.A.

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Congratulating the branch on its successful year of work, Mr. Speakman said that Ulster had done very well for its first year with 98 members. He felt they appreciated the good work done by the General Council, its officers and secretary Mr. Fuller.

Exhibitors would in due course have to face the problem of film shortage as studios in America were being requisitioned for war purposes and stars and technicians were joining the Forces.

In regard to the General Council's effort to help the authorities, Mr. Speakman said that the film training scheme was working well in the various commands, but Ulster, under Major George Lodge, was ahead of them.

Fox Settlement

Replying to questions, the President stressed that any exhibitor who had a complaint should have it sent to the General Secretary, who would take it up.

Following the meeting a private luncheon was held, and in the evening the whole of the Carlton was taken over for the Trade. The Dublin Trade was represented by Mr. Ellis, its vice-president, and Ted Hardiman represented the Eire renters. Mr. Speakman with T. H. MacDermott received the guests, and they included the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Sir Crawford M'Cullagh; Sir Wilson Hungerford, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Commerce, represented the Government; Lieut.-General Sir H. E. Franklyn, British G.O.C.; Air Vice Marshal Al. L. Cole; Col A. S. Dierking, U.S. Forces; and Col. A. F. Turnham, A.A.G.

Mr. Speakman, proposing the City of Belfast, paid tribute to the happy manner in which the authorities and the Trade co-operated, and the Lord Mayor, in his reply, acknowledged with gratitude the response of the branch to all calls made upon it.

Sir Wilson Hungerford, in proposing the Northern Ireland branch of the C.E.A., on behalf of the Government thanked the Trade for its interest and practical help in the war effort, and paid tribute to the work of George Lodge.

T. H. MacDermott, in replying, said that members would continue to do all they could to help the authorities.

In a typically witty speech, Brian M'Guigan toasted the guests. General Franklyn, on behalf of the Services, asked the kinema Trade to accept their thanks for the way they had catered for the Forces' needs. Air Marshal Cole said they, too, deeply appreciated the work of the C.E.A. and the way it was always willing to help every cause. They never attached any conditions to anything they did.

A dance was held, the music being supplied by the dance band of the 7th Battalion the Royal Norfolks.

The Ladies' Committee, consisting of Mrs. T. J. Furey (chairman), Mrs. Joan Lodge, Mrs. J. D. Russell, Mrs. Derek Finney and Miss Furey, made arrangements and the M.C.s were Ben Bloomfield and Norman Ellison.

Charles Victor in the Archers' production, THE SILVER FLEET, written and directed by Vernon Sewell and Gordon Wellesley (G.F.D.)

Birmingham C.M.A.

A BIRMINGHAM and [illegible]lands branch of the Cinema M[illegible]agers' Association came into [illegible] Sunday last following a [illegible]eting held in the Scala Theatre, [illegible]ming-ham. T. O'Brien (Gener[illegible] secretary N.A.T.K.E.), who [illegible]sided, accompanied by W. L. [illegible]ember (acting secretary, C.M.[illegible] and R. Willis (general [illegible]retary, London Trades Council), [illegible]ressed satisfaction with an atten[illegible]ce of 20 managers.

Speaking as a fellow-man[illegible] Mr. Pember declared that many [illegible]agers under-estimated their va'ue. [illegible] only they could succeed in organis[illegible] more than 50 per cent. of the ma[illegible]rs in the country they could place [illegible] pro-fession on a fair and reasonab[illegible] basis, and by combined action safegu[illegible] their own interests. The time wo[illegible] then come when the proposed "Ch[illegible]ter for managers" would be accepted by the employers.

In reply to a question concer[illegible]ng the attitude of the circuits to the C.M.A., Mr. O'Brien stated that on no occasion had he heard from circuit executives any disparaging remarks, or, indeed, a note of hostility towards that Associa-tion, and he was not going to have the leaders of the Industry or the C.E.A. besmirched.

Election of Branch officials was as follows:—H. Ferrier Cornforth (Scala, Birmingham), chairman, with C. W. Hutchin (Walturdaw) as vice-chairman, and J. H. Martin (Oak, Birmingham) as hon. secretary. Messrs. B. H. Paul (Warwick, Birmingham), Stafford (Savoy, Wolverhampton), A. Lewis (Piccadilly, Birmingham) and G. H. Richardson (Stirchley Pavilion) will also serve on the provisional committee.

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NOTTS & DERBY SATISFIED

Officers' Record of a Good Year's Work brings Re-election

A YEAR of great activity was reported at the annual meeting of the Notts and Derby branch on January 20, Joseph Pollard (Mansfield) presiding.

FRED A. PRIOR (secretary) submitting the annual report of the executive committee stated that the membership of the branch was 164, despite the fact that on the formation of the new North Lincolnshire branch eight members transferred to that branch.

It was stated that numerous applications for screen publicity from various charitable and national organisations had made it impossible for these requests to be dealt with by individual houses, and machinery had to be set up at the secretary's office for dealing with these applications.

The scheme was working very smoothly.

Satisfactory Record

Regarding opening on Christmas Day and Good Friday, applications were successfully made on behalf of members whose licences did not allow opening otherwise on these dates.

This branch co-operated fully with the national effort on behalf of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, and although no exact figures are available, the amount collected through the branch's area was approximately £5,000.

In addition, members in Nottingham agreed for collections to be taken in aid of the Notts Services' Comforts fund and the Aid to Russia fund. This collection, taken on two nights only, realised £378.

With regard to relations with employees, it was reported that these had been of a very friendly nature and that only two meetings of the Conciliation Board had been held during the past year.

For the C.T.B.F.

In respect of the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund, special approach had been made to all local authorities where Sunday opening operates for at least 10 per cent. of the amount received to be allocated to this fund.

"It is surprising to note," adds the report, "that certain local authorities in this area have not seen fit, so far, to make any contribution to the Trade fund, although it has been pointed out again and again that but for the kinemas there would be no charity money to allocate."

It was a "regrettable fact" that certain local authorities were under the impression that the 5 per cent. statutory deduction to the Cinematograph Fund is a contribution to the Trade charity. The authorities who were under this impression had had it corrected.

Members themselves, in their own localities, could do much to help the fund by tactfully approaching their own local authorities on this matter.

Liaison Officers

H. V. B. Goodson and F. A. Prior were, on the recommendation of the branch, commissioned in the Notts Home Guard, and it was their responsibility to make arrangements for training film shows for members of the armed Forces, the Civil Defence and Junior Cadets in the Notts and Derby area.

Licence Conditions

With regard to the proposed issue at Chesterfield of an entirely new licence containing many new conditions, it was reported that the chairman and secretary, at the request of Chesterfield members, were to negotiate with the authorities in respect of this matter, which is *sub judice* at the moment. It is hoped that when the licence is finally issued it will not prove a burdensome one.

S.O. Hours

Applications had been made to Nottingham Watch Committee and Notts C.C. in respect of the revision of Sunday opening times. In Notts the opening hours are from 5.30 to 10.30 p.m., whereas previously members could only open for three hours between these times, while the Nottingham Watch Committee granted an application to open at 1.30 p.m. without any alteration to the closing hours.

Wilful Damage

During the year the Association undertook a prosecution following a case of wilful damage in a local kinema. A conviction was obtained and very good publicity resulted. The matter was also taken up with the General Council and a film has now been prepared which is available to members interested in this important matter.

The appointed Cinema Day last year was October 17. "It is pleasing to note," states the report, "that the vast majority of branch members participated. The amount derived from 3,300 kinemas which participated throughout the country totalled £15,601.

Another Jubilee

Thanks to F. A. Prior on his 25th year as secretary to the branch were accorded.

Re-elected

The following officers were unanimously re-elected: Chairman, J. Pollard (Mansfield); vice-chairman, J. Langham Brown (Long Eaton); treasurer, Arthur Wilcock (Nottingham); delegates to General Council, J. Pollard, J. Drew, H. Elton and F. A. Prior.

UNFAIR KINEMA CHARGES

At Lincoln Town Council, Coun. H. Willcock gave notice of a question which he intends to raise at the next meeting with regard to what he described as "unfair charges" at kinemas and the action the police can take in regulating the charges.

West Lancs Nominates Simpson as President

PLAIN SPEAKING ON NEW BONUS DEMAND

WEST Lancashire branch, meeting at Preston last week, nominated Henry Simpson, of Ulverston, for the presidency of the Association, and for the sixth time re-elected him chairman of the branch. The N.A.T.K.E. bonus demand was described as "extraordinary and ridiculous."

H. R. V. ADDENBROOKE (Morecambe) in proposing the nomination of Mr. Simpson, said he was reminded of the Premier's words, for when their chairman became President of the Association all they could offer him would be "blood, sweat and tears." He was a very level-headed man, who did not indulge in amateur theatricals and could be depended upon to give good honest service to exhibitors.

H. SIMPSON, acknowledging, said that during the past year he had been supported by the major circuits, and by the majority of independents. He would accept office as an independent, fearing no one and under no serious obligation to any one. He would endeavour to discharge his duties without fear or favour.

Election of Officers

Branch officers were elected as follows: Chairman, H. SIMPSON; vice-chairman, H. R. V. ADDENBROOKE (Morecambe); secretary and treasurer, HARRY HARGREAVES (Morecambe); trustees, H. SIMPSON, H. R. V. ADDENBROOKE and H. HARGREAVES; hon. auditor, S. WHITEHEAD.

The committee will be: J. Atroy, E. Angers, J. F. Dobson, F. Fennell, F. Naylor, P. H. Yorke, T. A. Rearden (A.B.C.), W. Eastaway Smith (Odeon), N. Snell (G.B.).

J. F. Dobson and H. Simpson are to be the delegates to the General Council.

The Treasurer, S. WHITEHEAD, reported that subscription income for 1942 was £226, which yielded a surplus of income over expenditure of £48. The branch had in addition £262 cash at bank and £350 invested in Defence Bonds

Exhibitors Should Get Medals

Complaints were made of the unfairness of the quota in the present conditions of film supplies. One member criticised the attitude of the President of the Board of Trade, whom he described as "a weakling" through not pressing forward proposals for the amelioration of the quota law.

The CHAIRMAN: It is impossible in a place like Preston to get anything like the required number of quota films. We should be given medals for showing some of the films they booked in order to comply with quota requirements.

V.D. Films

Members were rather perturbed by the suggestion that the screens should be used in connection with the campaign against venereal disease. They expressed fears that there might be a glut of re-issues, and considered the Trade would lose dignity if it showed them in the manner they had done in the past. Films dealing with V.D., it was contended, were not suitable for putting before family audiences.

A resolution was adopted against the showing of V.D. films in ordinary programmes.

Carboniferous

Members were asked to take up carbons to the extent of their rationed amount. This caused one member to remark that on making a check-up he found he had a stock of 2,000.

Dearer Film Hire

Concerning the aftermath of the settlement with 20th Century-Fox, the CHAIRMAN said complaints received by the General Secretary were being examined. It had to be recognised that conditions of film supply and demand entered into the considerations. As there was a shortage of films, terms were bound to become stiffer, especially in respect of flat rates. He had not heard of any difficulty in respect of percentage bookings.

War Bonus

Reactions to the N.A.T.K.E. claim for a flat-rate war bonus were unfavourable. It was stated that in order to obtain usherettes it was now necessary to pay rates of wages in excess of those laid down in the branch agreement. Even so, there was difficulty in making a suitable selection from the available personnel. Members were warned that it was easy enough to put up wages in times like the present, but the present abounding prosperity could not be in evidence indefinitely.

The New Rich

JAMES ATROY said that recently he advertised for boys of school-leaving age to learn operating. He received a number of replies. One boy of 15 bluntly asked, "What wages?" His manager asked him what wages he was now getting, and he replied, "Five to seven pounds per week."

Mr. O'Brien's new demand was described by a member as "extraordinary and ridiculous." It was an attempt to put a new issue before the C.E.A., which should face it boldly.

The meeting adopted a resolution in favour of the war bonus being maintained on a percentage basis.

New C.E.A. Attitude on S.O. Licences Welcomed

DURING West Lanaeshire C.E.A. discussion on the proceedings of General Council and the L.F.P. report, special reference was made to the attachment of objectionable conditions to Sunday opening licences. The CHAIRMAN said it had now been decided by special resolution—which ought to have been adopted two or three years ago—that Sunday licences should not be accepted unless they were in accord with the bare terms of the Sunday Entertainments Act. Conditions concerning the admission of children were *ultra vires*.

J. ATROY: Does the decision also embrace exorbitant demands for charity contributions?

The CHAIRMAN: No. Obviously, exhibitors would decline to open if the charity clause was too severe.

Secretary H. HARGREAVES said he had written to the various licensing authorities requesting that part of the yield from the charity contribution should be paid to the C.T.B.F. Unfortunately, it was difficult to get a definite reply from many authorities. Blackpool was a bad offender in that respect. Up to now only Morecambe had acknowledged the claims of the C.T.B.F., but other places had promised to make a payment.

The CHAIRMAN: Blackpool does not acknowledge our requests in any shape or form, and that is the place where Sunday takings are heavier than anywhere else. We shall have to do something about Blackpool.

STIFLED DISCUSSION AT GENERAL COUNCIL

Whittell Reports to N.W. Branch on Warrington

WHILST not dissenting from the decision of the L.F. and P. Committee to instruct Warrington exhibitors to refuse Sunday opening licences owing to the inclusion of the *ultra vires* children's clause, E. H. Whittell, who presided at Friday's meeting of the North Western branch, asserted that all the relevant facts of the Warrington situation had not been put before the delegates.

Mr. Whittell referred to the President's dilemma—loyalty to Warrington (where he is interested in two kinemas) and a greater loyalty to brother officers of G.C.—and described the general secretary as "a past-master of the art of stifling unwanted discussion."

Watch Committee Insincerity

After explaining how Warrington exhibitors came to accept the compromise settlement for Sunday opening, the CHAIRMAN said it subsequently transpired that the Watch Committee was not so sincere in its desire to see the theatres open as had been assumed by the exhibitors. Although no children were to be admitted, the Watch Committee insisted on the provision of synopses, presumably with the idea of making certain that programmes were suitable for members of H.M. Forces to see!

Additionally, they were proposing to send "snoop" committees to the kinemas to ascertain what percentage of audiences comprised men in uniform, ignoring the fact that one of the first things a serving soldier does when coming home on leave is to don "civvies."

Pious Resolution

Before a further exhibitors' meeting could be held finally to decide whether or not advantage should be taken of the compromise arrangements, the L.F.P. Committee instructed Warrington exhibitors not to pick up licences if the *ultra vires* condition regarding the non-admission of children was amongst the clauses. So the matter stood to-day. At this meeting, however, a proposition was put forward that "Warrington exhibitors deplore the way in which the General Council reversed the decision of the Warrington exhibitors, and they desire to state a case."

"I want to say now," continued Mr. Whittell, "that this is merely a pious resolution, and it is not in the minds of the Warrington members that it shall go forward to the General Council so long as their reasons for accepting the compromise are made abundantly clear in the Trade Press, so that the members of the General Council may be in possession of all the facts."

Mr. Whittell said the Town Clerk of Warrington was informed that the condition regarding the non-admission of children would be contested to the highest court. The Watch Committee decided to get over this difficulty by refusing to issue licences at all.

Military Not Interested in Children

Presently, heads of various branches of H.M. Forces intimated in no uncertain terms their anxiety to get the theatres open on Sundays and their willingness to bring pressure to bear on the Watch Committee to influence an early issue of licences. They also made it quite clear that their only interest was in serving soldiers; the question of the man on leave or the admission of children did not weigh with them at all.

Later, the authorities spontaneously offered Sunday opening with the proviso that the children's condition should remain in the licence, but that unless the Watch Committee issued a summons against a licensee for having broken this condition, the Trade itself should give an undertaking that no attempt should be made to test the legality of the clause. They were anxious to settle the requirements of the Services, and at the same time save face.

Warrington exhibitors decided to accept the licences rather than break faith with the Forces, primarily for whom the application for the draft order was made.

Question of Good Faith

"The only serious issue was whether we should ignore the children's clause, as the Watch Committee's decision seemed to indicate, or whether we should honour it.

"In deference to an opinion by the C.E.A. solicitor that it would be fatal to have to answer a case in a magistrates' court, because we should then be only able to appeal to the Divisional Court, and if the local magistrates' decision were upheld, any question of further contesting the clause would be defeated, we decided that the condition should be honoured.

No Quarrel with L.F.P. Decision

"While we have not the slightest quarrel with this committee's decision on the matter, we feel that the way the matter was treated in the report to General Council and in the subsequent discussion indicates that members of the committee and Council could not appreciate the sincerity with which the Warrington members had entered this tentative agreement.

"It was only towards the end of the debate, when a member roundly attacked the Warrington exhibitors for proposing to accept such a licence, that we realised that the L.F.P. Committee were not perhaps cognisant with the true facts, and I rose briefly to put our point of view. At this time Mr. Fuller, the general secretary, a past-master of the art of stifling unwanted discussion, intervened, with the result that I was unable to make the required explanation. We have every confidence in our President, but realise that he would be torn between loyalty to Warrington and a greater loyalty to his brother officers of General Council.

"Under Protest"

"Norman Hart has, by letter and verbally in General Council, indicated to members that 'licence containing this condition should not be accepted, or, if it is accepted, this should be done under protest.'

"Mr. Hart must be aware that in accepting licence under protest the licensee is still bound by the conditions he accepts. It is my contention that to have accepted the Warrington licences without prejudice to either side was at least as safe as accepting a licence under protest." Mr. Rutherford deserved an expression of the confidence of the branch, concluded Mr. Whittell.

P. M. HANMER asked if this full report could be sent to members of General Council.

The CHAIRMAN: We feel that if the matter is fully reported in the Trade Press that will be sufficient. We are sore, because at London they seemed to think Warrington exhibitors had not given full consideration to all the facts.

R. P. RUTHERFORD: We compromised because of the use of the words by Mr. Norman Hart about accepting licences "under protest."

Adolphe Menjou and Rita Hayworth in YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER, a current Columbia Trade show

"Mum's the Word" at Nantwich

"An apotheosis of unsuccessful oratory" was chairman Whittell's description of a situation at Nantwich, where the Urban Council, after a discussion on whether to apply for a draft order, voted: four "for," four "against," and two members did not vote. As the result of incorrect statements having been made by religious organisations he wrote to the Council, and was invited to attend their January meeting. He made a clear exposition of the situation.

Members were amused when Mr. Whittell stated that on this occasion "the whole Council abstained from voting." The Town Clerk was now making inquiries into the possibilities of taking a local poll.

Iniquitous Charity Payments

L. EDWARDS (Rhyl) contended it was time the L.F.P. Committee of General Council made an attempt to secure the removal of the iniquitous Sunday charity clause. The longer it was allowed to operate the more difficult it would be to abolish it.

After some discussion, in which it was questioned whether this was the most opportune time to raise the matter, Mr. Edwards gave notice of his intention to introduce a resolution in two months' time.

Stir Up the Committee

Attempts by licensing authorities to restrict the admission of children to Sunday shows, whether accompanied by adults or not, called for more vigorous action by the L.F.P. Committee, stated one exhibitor. The L.F.P. Committee required to be "gee'd up" to put up a fight and to find some way of bringing the issue to a head.

On the proposition of W. EASTAWAY SMITH, seconded by P. M. HANMER, it was decided to write to the General Secretary asking that these views be placed before the L.F.P. Committee, and that immediate action be taken to prove the illegality of clauses which, in forbidding the admission of children, did not include the proviso "unless accompanied by parent or guardian."

G.C. to Meet in Liverpool

The CHAIRMAN stated that the February meeting of G.C. would be held in Liverpool on February 10; the committees would meet the previous day.

It was unanimously agreed to invite the delegates to lunch with the N.W. branch committee.

Why the Delay?

The CHAIRMAN reported that a few weeks ago a small deputation interviewed the Fire Force commander to point out the difficulty of securing trained men as kinema firemen. He promised to let them have information as to the terms on which N.F.S. men might be engaged for temporary spells of duty. As a matter of fact, no information had come to hand. Only eight names of trainees had been received.

A. W. COTTRELL: This question has continually cropped up. There has been a golden opportunity to get men trained, and we get only eight names!

The CHAIRMAN: The golden opportunity has been tarnished by the apathy of the N.F.S. itself. We want to know what the charge will be for the employment of relief firemen in an emergency; they have not told us. It is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. We have repeatedly contacted them for terms, but they do not reply to letters.

Condolence

The meeting adopted a resolution of condolence with the relatives of the late G. B. Haydock, manager of the Gaumont, Chester, a well-known manager of thirty years' standing.

OFFICERS AS BEFORE

Business at the annual meeting which followed was quite formal, except for a presentation to E. H. Whittell in acknowledgment of the excellent services he had rendered during 1942. It took the form of War Bonds, which R. P. RUTHERFORD, in handing over the gift, suggested might be exchanged for a more tangible memento of his year of office when more propitious conditions were restored.

Mr. WHITTELL, who spoke appreciatively of the manner in which the officers and committee had worked with him, was re-elected chairman.

Other positions were filled as follows: R. P. RUTHERFORD, vice-chairman; G. DUDLEY WEST, secretary and treasurer; E. H. WHITTELL, R. P. RUTHERFORD, W. J. SPEAKMAN, J. R. SARONIE, R. F. SCOTT and G. DUDLEY WEST, delegates.

Committee: E. Appleton, C. Burns, A. W. Cottrell, W. A. Crawford, L. Edwards, C. W. Elliott, A. Gregory, P. Giles, P. M. Hanmer, P. Inkester, J. C. Kennelly, A. Keen, W. J. McAree, I. Merriman, J. Roberts, W. J. Speakman, W. Eastway Smith and J. Ward.

Lord Mayor Elected to Committee

Unanimously it was agreed that Coun. R. Duncan French, an ex-chairman of the branch and the serving Lord Mayor of Liverpool, should be elected to the committee as an act of courtesy. W. J. Speakman, J. R. Saronie and P. M. Hanmer were elected trustees, and E. H. WHITTELL was appointed representative on the General Purposes Committee.

WASTE PAPER

The salvage drive is as urgent as ever. Are you doing your bit?

£5,000,000 "Wings for Victory" Target

LONDON AND H.C. EFFORT

Circuits Subscribe £750,000

A TARGET of £5,000,000 has been voluntarily imposed by the Industry in its forthcoming effort in aid of London's "Wings for Victory Week," which begins on March 6. The C.E.A., L. and H.C., the chiefs of circuits, and producers are all co-operating in the scheme, towards which each of the big circuits have subscribed £250,000.

At the invitation of the Lord Mayor of London, J. Arthur Rank has formed a committee of the Industry to help in the organisation of London's "Wings for Victory Week."

The following have accepted Mr. Rank's invitation to join. the Committee :—

A. G. Allen, Chairman of Associated British Cinemas, Ltd.; John Davis, Joint Managing Director of Odeon Theatres, Ltd.; E. T. Carr, Managing Director of United Artists Corporation, Ltd.; Coun. A. W. Green, Chairman of the London Branch of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association; Mark Ostrer, Joint Managing Director of Gaumont-British Picture Corporation, Ltd. ; G. W. Parish, Managing Director of British National Films; Spencer M. Reis, Chief Executive Director of D. and P. Studios, Ltd.

John Davis has been appointed secretary of the Industry's committee.

In addition there will be two nominations each from the London and Home Counties Branch of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, the Kinematograph Renters' Society and the British Film Producers' Association. The London C.E.A. has nominated D. J. James and Thomas France. The other nominations are expected shortly.

Associated British Cinemas, Gaumont-British, and Odeon will each subscribe £250,000.

This is the first occasion on which the Industry has been asked to support a scheme of this nature and the Committee's circular states :

"We are taking very seriously this challenge to our national spirit as an Industry, and whilst it is unnecessary to stress the importance of the whole Government campaign we ask you to bear in mind the significant and inspiring title under which it has been launched—'Wings for Victory'—and we are confident that this spirit will inspire your response and that we can rely upon your wholehearted support."

It is not the intention of the Lord Mayor that they should collect from the general public, but only from units within the film industry.

The area covered by the appeal is as follows :—the City, all the London Boroughs, Middlesex, and the five neighbouring Essex towns —Barking, East Ham, Ilford, Walthamstow and West Ham.

Sunday evening hours at Bury (Lancs) kinemas are to be from 6.15 to nine o'clock. So far they have been from seven until 9.40. The Bury Borough justices sanctioned this change last Wednesday.

PLENTY OF VARIETY IN NEWS

Bracken Defends Rota Policy

A DENIAL that the rota principle in connection with newsreel companies of the war restricts the variety of the pictures shown to the public was made last week by the Minister of Information.

Brendan Bracken, replying to Sir Herbert Williams, declared there is no question of denying freedom to the newsreel companies.

"The rota principle," he explained, "was adopted with the concurrence of the Newsreel Association, and the arrangements for operating it are the subject of weekly consultation with that association.

"Their aim is to provide opportunities for securing good material illustrative of the Allied war effort and for making it available to the largest possible public.

Plenty of variety can be introduced by selection from the rota material available, by its manner of treatment and by supplementing it with non-rota items at the discretion of the newsreel company concerned.

Mr. Bracken was answering the following question put by Sir Herbert Williams in the House of Commons on January 20. He asked the Minister of Information if he would reconsider the present arrangements in connection with the recording of news pictures relating to the war, having regard to the fact that the present rota system much restricted the variety of the newsreel pictures that could be shown in public; and would he accordingly grant to newsreel companies the same amount of freedom as that which was enjoyed by the newspapers.

DOUGLAS LATCH

Warner Manager Wins D.S.M.

Warner Bros.' head office and Birmingham staffs are saluting Douglas Latch, who has been awarded the D.S.M. for services on Russian convoy.

Mr. Latch was formerly office manager of the Birmingham branch and then on a special assignment before joining the Navy. Qualifying as a gun-layer, he went on to convoy work. His ship was sunk under him in the action which won his D.S.M.

Russell Hayden and Jinx Falkenburg in LUCKY LEGS, forthcoming Columbia picture

BECKENHAM LICENCE CONDITION

Reasonableness Questioned

The unwisdom of accepting conditions upon a licence even when they are held in abeyance was emphasised at the annual meeting of the Kent branch C.E.A. on Friday last.

It was reported that Beckenham Council was seeking to enforce conditions which were too onerous and which, in the opinion of some members, were *ultra vires*, although they had been tacitly accepted by members.

These conditions required that category boards should be exhibited both inside and outside the theatre, that they should explain fully the "A" and "U" certificate conditions and that no advertising should be employed (even a small two-line newspaper ad.) without these conditions being explained.

The branch decided that this involved a question which needed the expert advice of Norman Hart, and it was resolved to put the matter before him for his action.

The report of the General Council meeting was duly given, and emphasis was laid upon the need to ensure a full purchase of carbon supplies and the return of copper from stubs.

The election of officers resulted in F. B. Salt of Broadstairs becoming chairman for the year, the vice-chairman being G. Putnam of the Plaza, Blackfen, Sidcup. R. V. Crow was elected treasurer, H. Quinton continuing in office as secretary.

It was reported that the branch finances were in good condition and that the membership was 92, an increase of one on the preceding year.

The Torquay Education Committee is to make representations to the Board of Education that when new legislation is being introduced, provision should be made prohibiting the engagement of school children in entertainments.

Production Accountant Gets 5 Years

£16,000 INVOLVED IN FRAUDS

SENTENCE of five years' penal servitude was passed by the Recorder (Sir Gerald Dodson) at the Old Bailey, January 20, on Robert Donald Alexander, 32, of Weybridge, Surrey, formerly Chief Accountant to the Twentieth Century Productions, Ltd., who pleaded guilty to twelve charges alleging conspiracy, fraud, forgery, and theft.

Stanley Herbert Edwards, 44, a jeweller, of Beckenham, Kent, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in connection with the same series of offences.

It was stated that £16,000 was involved.

Det.-Inspector Tomlin said Alexander had asked for 25 other cases to be taken into consideration, 21 of them against his last employers, representing a total of £6,715.

He had obtained £400 worth of jewellery by means of worthless cheques. His downfall was due to mixing with undesirable women. Large sums of money had been traced to the accounts of two sisters to whom Alexander was easy prey and a very willing victim, but the police had not recovered any of the money.

Alexander lived lavishly and bought a house for £2,000. His salary was £14 10s. a week.

Derek Curtis Bennett (for Alexander) said that his work took him to the West End, where he met people very much better off than he was, and he began to spend more than he was earning. One of the women he met knew he was obtaining money dishonestly, and she blackmailed him for £1,500, while, according to Alexander, Edwards had shared in the business to the extent of between £3,000 and £4,000.

Eric Neve, K.C. (for Edwards), said Alexander had represented himself to Edwards as the chief accountant, financial adviser and secretary of the Twentieth Century Productions, Ltd., and he was living on a scale which rather suggested that he did occupy that important position. Alexander promised Edwards substantial orders for jewellery for film productions and said that he was buying scripts from authors and was very anxious they should not know who he really was or they would demand more money. The cheques were passed to Edwards' account.

Edwards was a Freeman of the City of London. He put Alexander's name forward as a Freeman and it had been accepted.

Scots Membership Up

The annual C.E.A. report for the past year shows an increase in membership, which now stands at 542. There is a surplus for the year of £326 1s. 10d., and this, added to the branch reserve account, now makes it £2,595 9s. 3d. Miss Macintosh, the first lady chairman of any branch in the country, has every reason to be proud of her year of office, as have the executive in their conduct of the branch throughout a very trying year. D. A. Stewart, General Manager for Scotland of A.B.C. Cinemas, will be next year's President.

COLUMBIA SHOWING SEVEN MORE

Astaire-Hayworth Co-Starrer Heads New Batch

IN these difficult days the exhibitor may ask, "What is the type of picture with which I can be reasonably sure of securing the maximum return from a varying type of audience?" and it may well be that he will find his answer in a light-hearted song and dance show which aims simply and solely at being escapist entertainment which is strong in stellar appeal and sparklingly effective in production values.

Columbia may justifiably make such a claim for "You Were Never Lovelier," the Fred Astaire-Rita Hayworth co-starrer, which heads the second batch of films already forthcoming from the company which promised a harvest of good things for showmen in this country for 1943. It is certain that this picture will pull the Trade in the direction of Studio One with a great deal of anticipation on Tuesday next, February 2, when "You Were Never Lovelier" is scheduled for its Trade screening.

New and Different

In the case of the other six films, too, there are many points of interest which presage something new and different; notable is the fact that Columbia, in line with its policy of developing stars from "the ranks," bows in Leslie Brooks in two important rôles, after consistent grooming. This lovely young woman certainly "has what it takes"—and that includes talent—to make her a box-office bet, especially from the male patron's angle. She co-features in two films as well as having a pleasing incidental part in the Astaire-Hayworth musical.

The complete list of Trade shows is as follows, time and venue being 10.45 a.m. at Studio One in every case:—

Tuesday, February 2, **You Were Never Lovelier**; Wednesday, February 3, **The Lido Mystery**; Thursday, February 4, **Lucky Legs**; Friday, February 5, **Blackie Goes Hollywood**; Tuesday, February 9, **The Boogie Man Will Get You**; Wednesday, February 10, **Troubles Through Billets**; Thursday, February 11, **Underground Agent**.

"You Were Never Lovelier," which stars Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth, may well set the pace for motion picture musicals. In addition to the dancing stars, the film features Adolph Menjou and Xavier Cugat and his orchestra, as well as offering what Hollywood believes to be Jerome Kern's finest musical score since his immortal "Show Boat."

But "You Were Never Lovelier" is remarkable for another reason. It is Hollywood's answer to the war-inspired problem of meeting a materials shortage, and doing so on a lavish scale. It is, further, the final answer to Hollywood's incessant search for a musical film formula suitable to screen limitations.

Hollywood Groupings

In the beginning. Hollywood struggled with super-Ziegfeldian tune-shows, with hundreds of cuties performing delightful gyrations before a camera perched in the weirdest places, interspersing such scenes with close-ups of the stars looking like living examples of a dental lecture.

After that, Hollywood returned to the back-stage type of story, which came to the screen with the advent of sound, with "The Jazz Singer." That worked fine until customers tired of the same story. After that, an effort was made to adapt some of Broadway's intimate revues to the screen, with the Marx Brothers and "Duck Soup" as an outstanding example.

It was easier to see and hear the performers in this type of film, but studios hesitated about putting top stars into films lacking "production values," so such films gradually became the casual, class B vehicles for the introduction of newcomers.

Semi-musicals, comedies with incidental song and music tossed in, have succeeded, and Columbia's "You'll Never Get Rich," which also starred Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth, was an outstanding example of such success. "You Were Never Lovelier" is in the same key, but this time in a glamorous South American setting, in which Rita Hayworth appears as the daughter of a rich impresario who is upset by her apparent lack of interest in romance. Her "father," Adolphe Menjou, invents a mysterious suitor for the girl and she falls in love with her unknown Galahad. Astaire inadvertently is mistaken for the dream prince. He plays up to the rôle. Falling in love with Rita is the inevitable result. William A. Seiter directed this streamlined extravaganza, with a touch in keeping with the lilt of its story.

Mystery Thriller

In "A Lido Mystery" Columbia believe that they have one of the best casts ever assembled for a "who-dunit" picture. William Gargan again appears as the suave sleuth, with Margaret Lindsay as his secretary, while Charley Grapewin, Gale Sondergard, Gilbert Roland, Sig Ruman and James Burke are important members of the supporting cast, which was directed by James Hogan in the latest of the popular Columbia series of screen adventures.

The action centres around a swiftly moving story of counter-espionage, with murder contributing a fair share of the general excitement. Gargan becomes involved with a sergeant of police, who is suspended from the force for losing a killer-suspect. In his effort to locate the prisoner Gargan stumbles across a Nazi spy ring, working in opposition to free Dutch forces in America. The trail leads through such diverse locales as exclusive jewellery stores, even more exclusive athletic clubs, art galleries—and (probably most exclusive of all!) cemeteries.

"Lucky Legs"

Jinx Falkenburg, the long-legged lovely who once was America's number one cover girl and today is one of Filmland's most attractive starlets, has the title rôle in the Columbia musicomedy "Lucky Legs." Russell Hayden, Kay Harris, Leslie Brooks, William Wright and Elizabeth Patterson are others in the cast, which was directed by Charles Barton.

Miss Falkenburg is the owner of the "Lucky Legs" of the title. Appearing as a chorine whose pulchritude attracts the attention of a Broadway playboy, she suddenly inherits from him a million dollars and a lot of trouble. She "angels" a Broadway production, in which she is slated to star; she meets a racketeer, who does his best to get his hands on the money; she falls in love with a young lawyer, whom her benefactor's sisters hire in order to break the will. The racketeer has a "legitimate" claim to the dough, because it had been abstracted from him in the first place; unfortunately, he can't prove where *he* got it, although he does try to retrieve it by similar means.

"Lucky Legs" is said to be, in essence, a mad and merry romance of Manhattan after dark, with some of the year's gayest mirth and melody thrown in for good measure.

The Misses Brooks and Harris appear as Jinx's room-mates and fellow-chorines, who start a "share-the-wealth-" movement all their own. Russell Hayden, chiefly known as a cowboy star, has won Hollywood acclaim for the ease with which he makes himself at home on Broadway, and William Wright is seen as the racketeer. Hollywood laurels have also gone to Elizabeth Patterson and to Adele Rowland, who do a "pixilated" act as the spinster sisters.

Cops go for their handcuffs . . . crooks go for their booty . . . blondes go for Blackie . . . when "Blackie Goes Hollywood." This exciting adventure-drama again features Chester Morris in the title rôle, while other familiar faces in the cast include George E. Stone, Richard Lane, Walter Sande and Lloyd Corrigan. Constance Worth plays the top feminine rôle. Michael Gordon directed.

A Comedy Terror

Loads of laughter are promised in a new type of horror picture, "The Boogie Man Will Get You." Here we have our old "horrific" friend, Boris Karloff, co-starring with Peter Lorre, but this time Karloff has shed the heavyweight horror make-up in a film which brings to the screen some of the "Arsenic and Old Lace" comedy-cum-terror technique.

The keynote of the picture can be determined by the fact that its sponsors describe it as one in which "merriment and murder march hand in hand." The story turns on the efforts of a nutty scientist to turn "Slapsie" Maxie Rosenbloom into a superman—a hilarious goofy proposition, as all will readily agree!

Bumstead War Workers

"If you can't join the Army—join the Bumsteads" might well be the maxim for "Troubles Through Billets." This time Penny Singleton has Dagwood Bumstead (Arthur Lake) in bandages and a lot of Americans in stitches in her efforts to rouse them to the realisation of their patriotic duties—the usual complications resulting as a consequence of her well-meant efforts.

"Underground Agent" is a thriller telling the story of a two-fisted Yank's efforts to smash a band of wire-tapping Nazi agents. Featuring with Bruce Bennett is lovely Leslie Brooks and Frank Albertson in what, for him, is a rather serious role than usual.

Harry Cohn Breaks a Precedent

"COME ONE, COME ALL"

HARRY COHN, Columbia's president, has broken a precedent—and it is in consequence of the new George Stevens' production currently titled "Come One, Come All."

Ever since the great Frank Capra picture of a few years ago gathered in the Academy Awards and the "Oscars," many a motion picture executive has labelled at least one top comedy as "another 'It Happened One Night.'" That is—every one of them *but* Harry Cohn, president of the studio that produced the picture. Now for the first time, Mr. Cohn believes his studio really *has* "another 'It Happened One Night.'" The film is the George Stevens' comedy co-starring Jean Arthur and Joel McCrea, with Charles Coborn in support.

He is highly optimistic about this picture's possibilities. Ever since he saw the first day's rushes his enthusiasm has mounted steadily, and he now regards the film as the brightest and timeliest comedy ever produced at a studio noted for its laugh-makers.

Enthusiasm All the Way

In fact, so firm is Mr. Cohn's belief that he made an exception to a stringent rule of the studio. Never in Columbia's history has any group of people, other than those actually engaged in production, witnessed an *unfinished* picture in the projection room.

However, Harry Cohn wanted to transmit his enthusiasm to the publicity department, so he ordered a rough-cut print, only two-thirds completed, and without sound effects or any other "trimmings" screened it for the entire personnel. He obtained a tremendous spontaneous reaction from this picture-wise group.

"Happening To-day"

A young secretary (Jean Arthur) is living her own life and minding her own business in a small apartment in Washington, D.C. Then two men (first Charles Coborn and then Joel McCrea) "move in" on her, turning deaf ears to her protests.

"The city is jammed," they say to her, "no place to live. You have an apartment with an extra room. We'll pay you rent and we'll share and share alike. It's only patriotic."

From then on, things happen—furiously, fast and funny. And his studio report that this picture is another "It Happened One Night," only it's happening to-day.

The Observation Window

Copper from Carbon Stubs

WANTON DAMAGE MUST BE HALTED

IT appears pretty evident that projectionists are not taking seriously the appeal to return all copper from carbon stubs. Because the amount obtainable from drips and stub casings is necessarily small, a number of operators in independent houses are thinking there is not sufficient to trouble about.

BUT it is the bulk which matters. Let no one think that because the daily or weekly amount is small it does not matter. The circuits are paying strict attention to this salvage of copper, and a respectable return is forthcoming periodically from circuit houses. Don't throw a single carbon stub away without first having stripped it of its metal.

IN this connection exhibitors are being urged by the C.E.A. to take up their ration of carbons to the fullest extent, and place those not immediately required into reserve. This would provide against a possible period of stringency in supplies

THIS means, if not a reversal of, at least a big change in the outlook regarding carbons. When the Pool was first instituted, it was stated that hoarding of carbons had caused a temporary shortage, and such hoarding was condemned. Now exhibitors are being recommended, if not to hoard, at least to build up a reserve.

I SHOULD like to see vigorous action undertaken against those people who go about spoiling property—whether civic or personal—just from a wanton lust to destroy or disfigure. It is bad enough in peace time; in war time it demands tracking down and heavy penalties.

LENIENCY by magistrates in these matters is merely weakness. Public shelters have been disgustingly used, while in kinemas damage to seats, lavatory fitments, carpets, etc., has grown to an alarming extent in some areas. Not only does such activity damage another person's property, but the article damaged causes inconvenience and discomfort to the culprit's fellow men and women. It is just disregard for any other person but the perpetrator's own self.

LICENSING magistrates who refuse to recognise women as kinema managers are just blinding themselves to the present manpower situation. At a time when women are everywhere being invited to take over men's jobs and thus release them for war effort, it seems just obstructionism not to allow a woman to manage a kinema.

J. BENSON.

DEATH OF LORD HIRST

One of the founders of the General Electric Co., Ltd., Lord Hirst, its chairman since 1910, and its managing director since 1900, died at his home, Fox Hill, Earley, near Reading, on Friday last. He was 79 years of age, and until early this month had been in regular attendance at his office.

Hugo Hirst came to this country at the age of 16 and entered the electrical industry three years later. It was not until 1886 when he joined Mr. Byng in what he himself called "a little electrical shop" that his life's work can really be said to have begun, for this business was the seed from which sprang in 1889 the giant G.E.C. with its issued capital of £8,000,000, employing 50,000 people.

A keen sportsman and in his youth a good athlete, Lord Hirst always gave practical support and encouragement to the sporting and social activities of his employees.

POOL CARBONS

TRANSPORTABLE PROCESSING UNIT

For U.S. Armies Abroad

DETAILS of new portable developing machines for field service with the U.S. Army are given in an article in the *American Cinematographer* for November, which has just reached this country.

The product of H. W. Houston, of Hollywood, they are specially designed for compactness, simplicity and serviceability under exacting conditions. Indeed, it is claimed that its operation can be conducted by an intelligent private without photo-technical experience.

The 16-mm. reversal processing machine is little bigger than an ordinary office desk, although it is capable of turning out 900 feet of processed film per hour. Its dimensions are 70 inches long by 30 inches wide by 54 inches high, and its weight 1,500 lb. Having castor wheels it can be wheeled into a light truck for transport.

The design of the machine permits complete davlight operations. The exposed film is loaded into a light-tight magazine. This can be done either in a portable darkroom provided by the manufacturers, or in a changing-bag. The magazine is then attached to the machine, and the film clipped with an ordinary hand-stapler to the leader threaded through the machine. From this point until the film has been redeveloped and fixed out, the film passes automatically through light-tight compartments.

Developer Travel

During processing, the film travels first through a "dark" compartment on the right-hand side of the machine, passing through the first developer, stop-bath, and rinse, and then past the "flashing" light through the bleach, clearing, and second-developer tanks. Thence it crosses over to the left-hand side of the machine and returns towards the starting point, passing through the hypo, rinse, and dry-box compartments before being fed on to a take-up reel beside the feed magazine.

The machine incorporates a unique double flashing light principle which is stated to afford remarkable latitude in the case of over- or under-exposures. As the film passes from the first developer into the bleaching solution, it passes a fixed exposing-light which prints the image from the first-developed negative on the hitherto silver halides of the emulsion. This printing action is, of course, directly proportioned to the density of the first-developed negative image; strong in the case of a thin, under-exposed negative image, and weak, in the case of a dense, over-exposed image.

The film then passes through the bleach and clearing baths which destroy the developed silver of this negative image, but do not affect the under-developed silver halides carrying the just-exposed positive image.

In the case of an over-exposure which, of course, produced a dense negative image and left comparatively little residual silver for forming the reversed positive, the action of this second exposing-light is to intensify the exposure received by the residual silver, and hence the density of the final positive image. Test exposures at f.3.5 made on a standard reversal emulsion in light which would normally call for an f.16 exposure are stated to have resulted in a readily discernible image, whereas identical over-exposures given standard commercial processing resulted in virtually clear celluloid.

The 35-mm. Model

For 35-mm a similar, though necessarily larger machine is built, intended primarily for fixed-base operation in a suitable darkroom. The same basic design is followed, and the machine is laid out for one-man operation. Either negative or positive film may be processed, by-passing the negative or positive developer tankage as the case may be. A variable-speed control is provided allowing a range of from 15 to 30 feet per minute when developing negative, and from 30 to 60 feet per minute when developing positive.

SHOWMANSHIP IN WAR TIME

Conducted by THE SHOWMAN

A Feature Run Under the Auspices of the "Kine." Company of Showmen

The finish of the parade at the Friars, Canterbury, for exploitation of WENT THE DAY WELL? (United Artists)

Displaying the Colours

THERE is no question that Plymouth was made very "Coastal Command" conscious when this film was screened at the Gaumont Palace, Plymouth.

Manager W. J. Halls-Brookes arranged a particularly attractive display of exhibits in the foyer of the house, which included large photographs of various aircraft, models of the various types of machines, a rubber dingy fully inflated, with the necessary emergency fittings, equipment and rations, distinctive cut-outs, bombs, flags, bunting, and other items which made a really great vestibule display.

The presentation of "Coastal Command" in Plymouth had a remarkable Press, and at a special preview of the picture at the Gaumont the Commander-in-Chief (Admiral of the Fleet Sir Charles Forbes, G.C.B., D.S.O.), Air Vice-Marshal G. R. Bromet, D.S.O., O.B.E., and many other distinguished personalities attended. R.A.F. personnel and a contingent of W.A.A.F.s marched to the theatre for the preview, and members of the local Air Training Corps formed a guard of honour at the Gaumont for the Commander-in-Chief and the Air Vice-Marshal, who took the salute on arrival. The colours of the various corps were placed in the vestibule for the occasion.

Cardboard H.G.s

A FOYER display built up from home-made cardboard cut-out of members of the Home Guard on duty on the village green was part of R. C. Qvers' exploitation scheme for "Went the Day Well," at the Friars, Canterbury.

Interest was secured by the co-operation of the Canterbury Army Cadet Corps, who arranged a parade, which marched through the principal streets to the theatre, headed by a Home Guard machine-gun team.

Wembley's Young Hero

ALL Wembley was stirred with Michael O'Callaghan's presentation of "In Which We Serve" (British Lion) at the Regal (A.B.C.), the theme for the week being the future of British youth. On the stage every night was the band of the local Sea Cadets under Lieut.-Commander King, with detachments from the A.T.C. and G.T.C., as support for the guest speakers, who included the Mayor (Coun. C. Barton), the O.C. "D" Company, Middlesex Cadets; the Rev. H. W. E. Elsley, chaplain to several local youth training movements; the O.C. the local A.T.C., the Area Commandant of the Wembley G.T.C., and the O.C. the *Barham* Unit, Sea Cadets. Star performer at each performance was 15-year-old Victor Haggith, a Wembley native, who, after training at a naval school, ran away to sea after the sinking of the *Hood*. Appearing in the uniform of the Merchant Navy, he told audiences how he served in a Norwegian tanker which was torpedoed by the enemy when 500 miles from land, was picked up by a Dutch boat, again blown up and finally reached New York, where he began a tour of the U.S.A., speaking to vast audiences and making a number of broadcasts there. Since returning to this country he has spoken twice over the B.B.C., but his appearance on the stage of the Wembley Regal was his first public engagement in his native town.

In the foyer Mr. O'Callaghan made an interesting display of nautical objects, including a collection of 50 cap-ribbons sent in by local lads serving in the Navy, a lifeboat used by the Sea Cadets, the only set of photographs taken of the Germans scuttling their fleet at Scapa Flow, and an extensive collection of flags of various nations, bunting, etc. The local Press splashed his activities, the *Wembley News* in particular providing a three-column report of Haggith's speech, with portrait, in the chief position on the front page, with two half-columns of additional matter inside.

A Greenford Novelty

FROM Manager C. R. Baughen, of the Greenford Granada, comes news of a novel stage interlude which greatly pleased his patrons recently. It consisted of a 20-minute show by a quartette of Merchant Navy men under the leadership of Skipper Roy Jackson, who compered the entertainment. The men were heroes of Dunkirk, the Battle of the Atlantic and Narvik, and included a stoker, a greaser and other ratings. They told stories of their adventures and presented solos and concerted vocal numbers, including sea shanties, besides playing a banjo-ukulele. On show at the theatre during their appearance were a number of souvenirs connected with their lives at sea. The audience thoroughly enjoyed this novel act and gave the men a hearty reception.

Naval Service

LIKE some other managers, A. L. W. Tolliday included in his campaign for "In Which We Serve" (British Lion) at the Bowes Road Ritz (A.B.C.), New Southgate, house decoration, interior displays and stage interludes. He decorated the front of the building with flags, a banner and lines of bunting, and had a pair of Sea Scouts on sentry duty daily. The vestibule was also bedecked with bunting and pennants, and in the circle promenade he had an interesting display of nautical models—tankers, submarines, a troop-carrier, battleship, etc., some of them made with astonishing skill by a local boy aged 10. Daily throughout the run there was a brief stage ceremony consisting of a detachment of Sea Scouts under their officers, one of whom described the work of the movement and made an appeal for additional recruits for the local detachment. On Friday, the Mayor of Southgate (Coun. Wm. Skinner, J.P.) and the whole of the council attended the evening performance in state. Mr. Tolliday told me that this publicity had greatly stimulated business.

Commander-in-Chief (Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Charles Forbes, G.C.B., D.S.O.) leaving the Gaumont Palace, Plymouth, after the preview of COASTAL COMMAND (Paramount) with manager W. J. Halls-Brookes

Clean Display

HEARTY congratulations to manager Frank Bradley upon his clean, bold and effective foyer display, combining "Season's Greetings" and presentation notice for his screening of "This Above All," at the Regent, Barker's Pool, Sheffield.

The illustration shows the imagination with which the whole was designed and the effectiveness of the carefully chosen lettering.

A pleasing and effective combined display for THIS ABOVE ALL (20th-Fox) at the Regent, Sheffield

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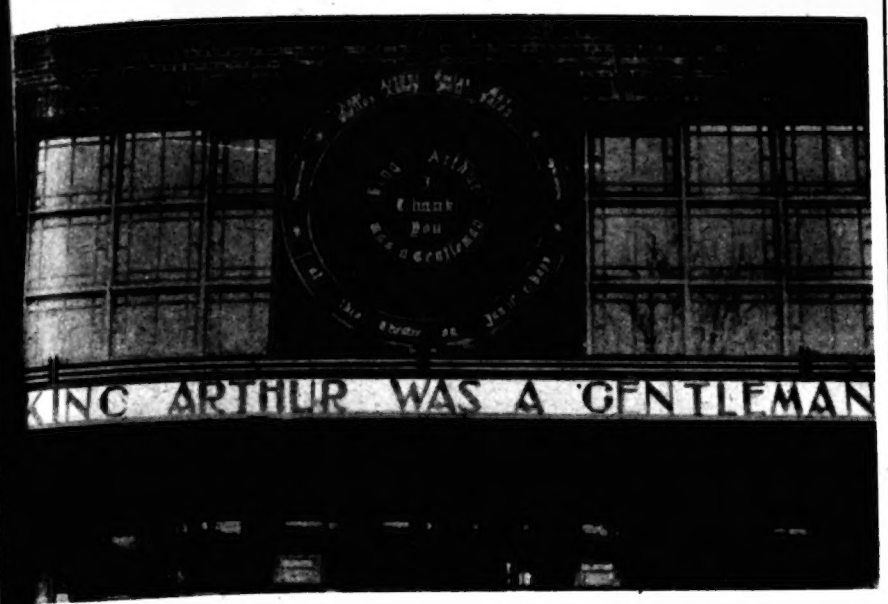

Attractive outside display by G. Saunderson at the Odeon, Winchester, for KING ARTHUR WAS A GENTLEMAN (G.F.D.)

King Arthur's Table

YET another brainwave by Gerald Saunderson resulted in the striking display above the canopy of the Odeon, Winchester.

This up-to-date version of the Round Table was painted on natural wood-coloured lino, was 10 ft. square, and made admirable display for "King Arthur was a Gentleman."

Service Aid

WHEN contacting the local command, manager J. Rose, of the Theatre Royal, King's Lynn, had no idea of the enthusiasm which his request for help in exploiting "Eagle Squadron" would arouse.

Their interest is shown by the illustration of the exhibits with which they filled his foyer, and of the able and kindly assistance so generously given.

The Battle of Leytonstone

HERBERT J. GILBERT, manager of the Rex (A.B.C.), Leytonstone, served in the Royal Navy during the last war and this experience proved helpful in the arrangement of his exploitation for the British Lion film, "In Which We Serve." The Rex is one of those modern buildings having an entrance between shops which, owing to the war, are vacant, and this afforded useful space in which to stand large models of warships. On one side was a 20-ft. replica of the *Exeter*, on the other a 12-ft. copy of the submarine *Wanderer*, while a third model—of a destroyer—was accommodated at the entrance to the carpark flanking the building. Wishing to give a vivid representation of a naval battle with this miniature navy, Mr. Gilbert neatly overcame the fuel economy restrictions by working out with his technical staff a method of providing gun flashes by means of magnesium powder fired at 45-minute intervals by electrical contacts. The front of the house was freely decorated with lines of bunting, the vestibule was similarly brightened with flags, pennants and shields, and in the circle foyer he put a 15-ft. replica of H.M.S. *Victory* under full sail.

Every night there was a stage ceremony preceded by a parade of some 50 members of the local Sea Cadets, who marched to the hall from their depôt carrying hurricane lanterns and lined up outside to form a guard of honour for the principal guest—a different local personality on each occasion, and including Sergt. Harry Kenny, V.C. The inaugural ceremony, as well as the concluding one on Saturday, consisted of a tableau representative of all the Services—fighting and civil defence, two members of each of which, bearing their respective flags, made a vast semicircle on the stage round the principal speaker, who was introduced to the audience by Mr. Gilbert. On Saturday evening the Mayor (Ald. Kay Hammond, J.P.) attended with members of the council.

Needless to say, all this unusual activity created tremendous interest among the local populace, who thronged the house to witness the nightly "battles" and the parade of boys. Record business was done. Elaborate as were the arrangements, Mr. Gilbert reports that the total cost of the campaign was only 6½d.—for nails. There were tie-up window displays in eight local shops, and the models were lent to him gratis by the council (which had used them in an earlier National Savings campaign) as a *quid pro quo* for his unstinted help during the summer with the Stay-at-Home Holidays. The *Express and Independent* gave him a front-page notice spreading over four columns in which special mention was made of the fact that he claimed to be the last British sailor to be wounded in the Great War, having been injured by a German shell in October, 1919, nearly a year after the armistice, while serving near Riga with the Dover Patrol in H.M.S. *Dragon*. Sailors wearing the cap of this ship are shown in the film, a coincidence not omitted from the notice.

"Handel" at Norwich

AN excellent campaign to exploit the showing of "The Great Mr. Handel" at the Carlton, Norwich, was arranged by manager Geoffrey Davies.

The week prior to show date, resident organist Archie Gibbs played selections from Handel's works during the screening of the trailer, followed by a slide stating that records and sheet music of Handel's compositions could be obtained at Messrs. Willson and Ramshills musical saloon in the city. Banners advertising the times of screening, etc., were displayed in this firm's city showroom.

For the actual week of screening Irene Gaze, a local gold medallist, was engaged by Mr. Davies to sing solos of Handel's numbers at each performance, with Archie Gibbs accompanying on the organ, which has recently been reconditioned following the damage by water during the April blitz.

To round off the exploitation Mr. Davies wrote personal letters to heads of the city schools, inviting them to bring organised parties of schoolchildren to any of the afternoon performances.

Seamen and Singers

AT the Streatham Regal (A.B.C.) Reg Sparrow presented nightly a seven-minute stage interlude as introduction to the British Lion film, "In Which We Serve." Fifty members of the Streatham Sea Cadets opened the show with their band; then one of their three officers read the naval prayer which contains the words from which the title of the film was taken. The Norbury Choir sang an appropriate number and the performance concluded with a tableau in which three small Cadets raised aloft the national flags of Britain, U.S.A., and Russia.

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A CORRECTION

By one of those strange mishaps which are apt to occur even in the most efficient offices, a strange error was made on page 61 of New Year's enlarged issue. At the head of Leonard Poole's article we printed a portrait. Although this showed the familiar features of a Poole, unfortunately, it was not the correct one. The picture we inserted by mistake was that of John R. Poole, managing director of Poole's Theatres, Ltd.

LEONARD POOLE

To put matters right, here is a new picture of the Hackney Road Odeon manager. In printing this we tender our apologies to both gentlemen for the slip.

DISPLAY

Publicity should be strong, yet attractive, including everything from the programmes to the carpets on the floor, briefly, every angle being exploited in every way in the most powerful manner; but one medium is of the most importance, that is the house display, for this should not only be of real force, but also part of the theatre's decoration; this can easily be obtained by installing Coltman's frames and publicity service.

COLTMAN DISPLAYS LTD.
Fairfield Works, Hounslow, Mdx. (Tele.: HOU. 3265-6)

Interesting display of R.A.F. exhibits in the foyer of the Theatre Royal, Kings Lynn, in connection with screening of EAGLE SQUADRON

RELEASES FOR FEB. 22, 1943

Compiled by A. W. OWEN

"ORCHESTRA WIVES" (20th Century-Fox)

CERT. A. Length 8,785 ft. Reg. No. F.5928. Reviewed in KINE. November 19, 1942.
STARS.—George Montgomery, Ann Rutherford, Glenn Miller and Orchestra.
ATMOSPHERE.—Romantic comedy written round an ace dance-band trumpeter and told with many musical "swing" numbers and "swing" episodes of the family life of the touring musicians and their wives.
ORGAN.—Medley of refrains from "Serenade in Blue," "I've Got a Girl," "People Like You and Me," and "At Last," being principal songs featured, with adaptation from the vocal-piano copies. (Walsh Holmes.)
NON-SYNC.—"Serenade in Blue" and "At Last," recorded on Decca-Brunswick O.3415. (dance orchestra) or "Serenade in Blue" and "I've Got a Gal," recorded on Decca-Brunswick O.3412 (dance orchestra).

"THE VANISHING VIRGINIAN" (M-G-M)

CERT. U. Length, 8,716 ft. Reg. No. F.5172. Reviewed in KINE. April 23, 1942.
STARS.—Frank Morgan, Kathryn Grayson.
ATMOSPHERE.—Period comedy-drama of life in Southern Virginia, with its characteristic integrity, chivalry and sportsmanship.
ORGAN.—"Down South," Myddelton (Hawkes), with adaptation from the piano-solo copy.
NON-SYNC.—As organ, recorded on Decca-Brunswick F.3857 by Jack Hylton's Concert Orchestra, or on H.M.V. C.1774 by the Dixie Melodists.

"RUBBER RACKETEERS" (Pathé)

CERT. A. Length 5,941 ft. Reg. No. F.5937. Reviewed in KINE. November 26, 1942.
STARS.—Ricardo Cortez, Rochelle Hudson.
ATMOSPHERE.—Gangster melodrama of a racketeer who tries unsuccessfully to exploit the shortage of rubber car tyres.
ORGAN.—"King Lear" Overture, Berlioz (Chester), with adaptation from the orchestral piano-conductor copy using introduction and finale only.
NON-SYNC.—As organ, recorded on H.M.V. D.B.3093-4 by the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra.

"DRUMS OF THE CONGO" (G.F.D.)

CERT. A. Length 5,305 ft. Reg. No. F.5998. Reviewed in KINE. December 17, 1942.
STARS.—Ona Munson, Don Terry.
ATMOSPHERE.—Espionage melodrama with an African jungle setting, a fight between Allied and Axis interests for metal essential to the manufacture of machine tools.
ORGAN.—"Three African Dances," Suite, Montague Ring (Chappell), No. 1 only, with adaptation from the piano-solo copy only.
NON-SYNC.—"Four Ways," Suite, No. 3, "Eastwards," recorded on H.M.V. C.2666 by New Light Symphony Orchestra.

"THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS" (RKO-Radio)

CERT. U. Length 7,940 ft. Reg. No. F.5789. Reviewed in KINE. October 15, 1942.
STARS.—Joseph Cotten, Dolores Costello, Tim Holt.
ATMOSPHERE.—Artistic but sombre study of domestic and industrial life in a Western town in the late 'nineties, adapated from Booth Tarkington's novel.
ORGAN.—"Valse Rustique" from "Characteristic Valse Suite," Coleridge-Taylor (Ascherberg), with adaptation from the piano-solo copy.
NON-SYNC.—As organ, recorded on H.M.V. B.8378 by the New Light Symphony Orchestra.

"FLIGHT LIEUTENANT" (Columbia)

CERT. U. Length 7,197 ft. Reg. No. F.5916. Reviewed in KINE. November 19, 1942.
Continued at foot of column 4

Kinema Organists in His Majesty's Forces

No. 35.—L.A.C. Stanley Tudor, R.A.F.

THIS week we are including one of the G.-B. leading organists who joined the R.A.F. when solo resident organist at the G. B., Manchester.

Stanley Tudor, born in Stoke-on-Trent, came from a musical family, for his father was organist and choirmaster at the Parish Church, which gave young Stanley ample opportunity to practise on the organ. He soon became deputy organist and eventually organist of the same church. At the early age of 14 he got a job as pianist (solo) at the Capitol, Hanley, and from there made broadcasts via the old Stoke-on-Trent relay station which you could only hear if you had possessed a crystal set complete with earphones.

His next position was as solo organist at the Hippodrome, Stoke, and later joined G.-B. and did duty in several London suburban kinemas before settling down as resident solo organist at the new G.-B. Palace, Hammersmith, in 1932. In 1935 he was transferred to the G.-B., Manchester, and has had many B.B.C. broadcasts, which even continue at intervals now he is in the R.A.F. by permission of his Commanding Officer. Permission has also been granted for recitals on the organ of the Colston Hall, Bristol, De Montfort Hall, Leicester, Victoria Hall, Hanley, and the City Hall, Sheffield. His B.B.C. broadcasts are noted for works seldom played, examples of which are the "Oberon" Overture, Eric Coates Suite: "The Three Bears," and the "Barber of Seville" Overture, etc., included recently.

Needless to say, he is well mixed up with the musical entertainment schemes of his own R.A.F. unit, as he has an organ in the gymnasium, which also acts as the camp theatre. He is an efficient organist and will be sure of a warm welcome back to his old theatre when he returns safely to civil life again. Till then, greetings.

A. W. O.

Two Managers and an Organist Travel "The Road to Morocco"

VISITING my old friend Reginald Maxwell, who is doing some residential solo work for the Odeon Circuit at Morden, S.W., and over a cup of tea in the café with Kenneth Rowland, general manager, Capt. John Barrington, house manager, and Reginald, we discussed matters "organic" and musical, with the importance of managerial co-operation, with the result that the photo which heads this little paragraph was handed to me as a concrete example of this when "The Road to Morocco" was screened at this theatre in the previous week. Not only was suitable music played, but a very novel interlude was presented titled the "Moving Mike."

To open the presentation Capt. John Barrington in costume, who has personally served in Egypt, sang the "Arab's Call to Prayer" through the "mike." Then members of the audience were asked to volunteer to sing certain appropriate songs through a mike which would be brought to where they were sitting in the theatre both in stalls and balcony with words

supplied projected on the screen Incidentally, the whole audienc were asked to sing the refrain o chorus of each number. The managers in full costume took this novable "mike" round, and the whole stunt was voted a huge success, patrons even coming along a second time during the week to join in the scheme.

On my visit Reginald Maxwell's interlude was "Some Old Favourites," which ranged from "Lullaby of the Leaves" and "Eighteenth Century Drawing Room," to musical comedy excerpts like "Au Revoir," from "Bitter Sweet," which was the concluding item. The vociferous and continued applause was an indication of the appreciation of the programme. Before Reg. came to Morden the organ had been closed for a while, but I cannot see that happening while he is at the console. A. W. O.

STARS.—Pat O'Brien, Glenn Ford, Evelyn Keyes.
ATMOSPHERE.—Paternal melodrama with an American Air Force background, in which an ace flyer of the last war crashes while drunk and kills his co-pilot.
ORGAN.—"Prometheus" Overture, Beethoven (Hawkes), with adaptation from the orchestral piano-conductor copy (excerpts).
NON-SYNC.—As organ, recorded on Columbia L.X.488 (Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra).

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FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS

DATE.	TIME.	PLACE.	TITLE OF FILMS.	SHOWN BY.	STARS.	CERT.
		LONDON.				
Thur., Jan. 28	2.30 p.m.	G.B. Private T.	Phantom Killer	Pathe	Dick Purcell	A
,, ,, 28	11 a.m.	Own Private T.	Eight Shorts	M-G-M		
Fri., ,, 29	2.30 p.m.	G.B. Private T.	Jungle Siren	Pathe	Ann Corio	A
,, ,, 29	2.30 p.m.	Crown Theatre	Calaboose	United Artists	Jimmy Rogers	—
Tues., Feb. 2	10.45 a.m.	Studio One	You Were Never Lovelier	Columbia	Rita Hayworth	U
,, ,, 2	10.30 a.m.	Carlton	Happy Go Lucky	Paramount	Mary Martin	—
,, ,, 2	10.30 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.	Century	Immortal Sergeant	20th Century-Fox	Henry Fonda	—
Wed., ,, 3	10.45 a.m.	Studio One	The Lido Mystery	Columbia	William Gargan	A
		BIRMINGHAM.				
Fri., Jan. 29	10.15 a.m.	Forum	Yankee Doodle Dandy	Columbia	James Cagney	U
,, ,, 29	10.30 a.m.	West End	The Proud Valley	A.B.F.D.	Paul Robeson	A
Tues., Feb. 2	10.30 a.m.	Scala	The Last Command	Pathe	Gertrude Michael	A
Wed., ,, 3	10.30 a.m.	Scala	A Night for Crime	Pathe	Gwenda Farrell	A
Thur., ,, 4	10.30 a.m.	Scala	Phantom Killer	Pathe	Dick Purcell	A
		CARDIFF.				
Fri., Jan. 29	10.30 a.m.	Olympia	Across the Pacific	Warner	Humphrey Bogart	U
,, ,, 29	10.45 a.m.	Park Hall	The Proud Valley	A.B.F.D.	Paul Robeson	A
Tues., Feb. 2	10.45 a.m.	Park Hall	Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant	M-G-M	Lionel Barrymore	—
,, ,, 2	10.45 a.m.	Olympia	Trans-Atlantic Merry-Go-Round	A.B.F.D.	Gene Raymond	A
,, ,, 2	11 a.m.	Empire	The Last Command	Pathe	Gertrude Michael	A
Wed., ,, 3	11 a.m.	Empire	A Night for Crime	Pathe	Gwenda Farrell	A
Thur., ,, 4	11 a.m.	Park Hall	Jungle Siren	Pathe	Ann Corio	A
		GLASGOW.				
Fri., Jan. 29	10.45 a.m.	Playhouse	Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant	M-G-M	Lionel Barrymore	—
,, ,, 29	10.45 a.m.	Regal	Desperate Journey	Warner	Errol Flynn	A
,, ,, 29	10.40 a.m.	La Scala	Arms and the Girl	A.B.F.D.	Barbara Stanwyck	U
Tues., Feb. 2	10.50 a.m.	New Savoy	The Last Command	Pathe	Gertrude Michael	A
Wed., ,, 3	10.50 a.m.	New Savoy	A Night for Crime	Pathe	Gwenda Farrell	A
Thur., ,, 4	10.50 a.m.	Playhouse	Phantom Killer	Pathe	Dick Purcell	A
		LEEDS.				
Fri., Jan. 29	10.30 a.m.	Ritz	Across the Pacific	Warner	Humphrey Bogart	U
,, ,, 29	10.45 a.m.	Scala	The Proud Valley	A.B.F.D.	Paul Robeson	A
Tues., Feb. 2	10.30 a.m.	Ritz	The Last Command	Pathe	Gertrude Michael	A
Wed., ,, 3	10.30 a.m.	Ritz	A Night for Crime	Pathe	Gwenda Farrell	A
Thur., ,, 4	10.30 a.m.	Scala	Phantom Killer	Pathe	Dick Purcell	A
		LIVERPOOL.				
Fri., Jan. 29	10.45 a.m.	Forum	Trans-Atlantic Merry-go-Round	A.B.F.D.	Jack Benny	A
,, ,, 29	10.45 a.m.	Palais de Luxe	Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant	M-G-M	Lionel Barrymore	—
Tues., Feb. 2	10.30 a.m.	Forum	Yankee Doodle Dandy	Warner	James Cagney	U
,, ,, 2	11 a.m.	Trocadero	The Last Command	Pathe	Gertrude Michael	A
Wed., ,, 3	11 a.m.	Trocadero	A Night for Crime	Pathe	Gwenda Farrell	A
Thur., ,, 4	11 a.m.	Scala	Phantom Killer	Pathe	Dick Purcell	A
		MANCHESTER.				
Fri., Jan. 29	10.45 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.	Private Theatre	Across the Pacific	Warner	Humphrey Bogart	U
,, ,, 29	10.45 a.m.	Theatre Royal	Trans-Atlantic Merry-go-Round	A.B.F.D.	Jack Benny	A
,, ,, 29	10.45 a.m.	Gaiety	Six Shorts	Columbia	———	—
Tues., Feb. 2	10.45 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.	Private Theatre	Yankee Doodle Dandy	Warner	James Cagney	U
,, ,, 2	10.45 a.m.	Gaumont	The Last Command	Pathe	Gertrude Michael	A
,, ,, 2	10.45 a.m.	Gaiety	Six Shorts	Columbia	———	—
Wed., ,, 3	10.45 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.	Private Theatre	Yankee Doodle Dandy	Warner	James Cagney	U
,, ,, 3	10.45 a.m.	Gaumont	A Night for Crime	Pathe	Gwenda Farrell	A
,, ,, 3	10.45 a.m.	Gaiety	Seven Shorts	Columbia	———	—
Thur., ,, 4	10.45 a.m.	Theatre Royal	Phantom Killer	Pathe	Dick Purcell	A
		NEWCASTLE.				
Fri., Jan. 29	10.30 a.m.	Haymarket	Yankee Doodle Dandy	Warner	James Cagney	U
,, ,, 29	10.45 a.m.	Stoll	The Proud Valley	A.B.F.D.	Paul Robeson	A
Tues., Feb. 2	10.30 a.m.	Haymarket	Across the Pacific	Warner	Humphrey Bogart	U
,, ,, 2	10.45 a.m.	Queen's	The Last Command	Pathe	Gertrude Michael	A
Wed., ,, 3	10.45 a.m.	Queen's	A Night for Crime	Pathe	Gwenda Farrell	A
Thur., ,, 4	10.45 a.m.	Essoldo	Phantom Killer	Pathe	Dick Purcell	A
		NOTTINGHAM.				
Tues., Feb. 2	10.45 a.m.	Scala	Arms and the Girl	A.B.F.D.	Barbara Stanwyck	U
Wed., ,, 3	10.45 a.m.	Scala	Trans-Atlantic Merry-go-Round	A.B.F.D.	Jack Benny	A
Thur., ,, 4	10.45 a.m.	Scala	The Proud Valley	A.B.F.D.	Paul Robeson	A
		SHEFFIELD.				
Fri., Jan. 29	10.30 a.m.	Union Street	Trans-Atlantic Merry-go-Round	A.B.F.D.	Jack Benny	A
Tues., Feb. 2	10.30 a.m.	Regent	The Last Command	Pathe	Gertrude Michael	A
,, ,, 2	10.30 a.m.	Cinema House	Dr. Gillespie's New Assistant	M-G-M	Lionel Barrymore	—
Wed., ,, 3	10.30 a.m.	Regent	A Night for Crime	Pathe	Gwenda Farrell	A
,, ,, 3	10.30 a.m.	Hippodrome	Yankee Doodle Dandy	Warner	James Cagney	U
Thur., ,, 4	10.30 a.m.	Union Street	Phantom Killer	Pathe	Dick Purcell	A

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